Toronto metro

WHAT'S (VERY) OLD IS NEW AT THE ROM
metroNEWS

Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015 | High 23°C/Low 14°C Sun!

TORONTO'S DEADLY STREETS

Police investigate the Saturday crash that killed a 26-year-old cyclist on Avenue Road, north of Davenport. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

metro EXCLUSIVE

Deaths triple: 21 pedestrians, 3 cyclists killed so far this year

Chris Bateman
For Metro | Toronto

Thirty-one people have died on Toronto streets this year — putting the city on track for what could prove a record year in road fatalities.

The deaths include 21 pedestrians and three cyclists, all killed within the last month.

Police had recorded only 11 road deaths at this time in 2014, none involving cyclists.

There's no simple explanation, or solution, for the spike, police said. But, in more than one case, impaired driving has been a factor.

"Both the cyclists and drivers have made errors in those collisions," Const. Clinton Stibbe said. "Unfortunately, those errors, whether they were small or not, have led to the death of an individual.

"You could make that same mistake every single day for the rest of your life and not be killed."

But cycling advocates say better infrastructure will prevent a repeat of the last few weeks.

BY THE NUMBERS

Toronto traffic deaths

2015: Drivers: 6, Passengers: 1, Pedestrians: 21, Cyclists: 3, Total: 31*

2014: Drivers: 12, Passengers: 5, Pedestrians: 31, Cyclists: 3, Total: 51

*** Through June 14**

SOURCE: TORONTO POLICE SERVICE

More coverage in metroNEWS

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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

The Donald wants to be president. **World**

CHARITY

Group brings food bank to the people

A Toronto initiative that allows people to donate to food banks without leaving the comforts of home may alleviate the problem of bare shelves in the summer months.

A decrease in donations to food banks is common in the summer, and upon hearing about the problem from a friend who worked at one, Grant Gordon — founder of an advertising and design firm — was compelled to find a solution.

"I just started thinking about bringing the food bank to people's front doors instead of the other way around," says Gordon, who launched Gratitude Bag last summer.

The concept is simple — a bag, to be filled up with nonperishable items from one's pantry is dropped off at front doors in the morning and picked up by a volunteer some time after dinner.

Gratitude Bag raised 25,000 pounds of food last summer for the Daily Bread Food Bank, says executive director Gail Nyberg.

She says Gratitude Bag not only brings in a substantial amount of food, but also raises awareness about the fact that "hunger isn't just a seasonal issue that happens at Christmas time or Thanksgiving.

"That this is something people using food banks are facing all year round," she says.

Gordon also believes the variety found within the donations sets Gratitude Bag apart.

"People are really thoughtful about what they put in the bags," he says, adding that while donations from food companies are usually large, they tend to be "crates of one packaged good."

In contrast, Gordon says, donations from home pantries result in a wide assortment of foods, "which goes a long way in terms of helping families have a healthy, diverse diet."

Gratitude Bag kicked off its inaugural summer with a massive food drive in June of 2014, dropping off bags at more than 5,000 homes in Riverdale. Pickups and dropoffs happened twice a week.

This time around, Gordon hopes to have his crew collect donations four times a week through July and August. He's looking to relaunch for the summer by June 29.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Last summer, Gratitude Bag launched its operation by dropping food donation bags off at more than 5,000 homes in the Riverdale area. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/CONTRIBUTED

IN BRIEF

Theft of truck full of fireworks leads to warning

Police in Toronto have issued a public safety alert after a truck laden with pyrotechnics was stolen in the city.

They say the cube truck carrying theatrical pyrotechnics and explosives was parked on a street on Sunday when it was stolen sometime between 4:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Police say the contents of the truck should only be handled by qualified professionals.

The vehicle is described as a white, 2005, GMC cab-forward, roll-off truck, carrying a white cube, with Ontario licence plate AK54132.

Police are asking anyone who finds the truck not to approach it, but to call 911.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The young entrepreneur Abi Smithson is now a real businesswoman, with her shoes now on the market. CONTRIBUTED

Sandal sales a labour of Love for young girl

BUSINESS

Opening up retail shop the next step for 10-year-old

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

What started as a simple idea has turned into a serious business for a 10-year-old Mississauga girl.

Last week, Abi Smithson received her first order of 2,000 pairs of Love Sandals, a brand of shoes she's been developing for the past two years. Two hundred and fifty pre-orders were already made even before the arrival of the shipment, and a lot of family and friends have flocked the warehouse to purchase the product in time for the summer.

"I wear all of them," said the excited young entrepreneur.

"We all have the shoes. They are all over my house," interjected her mother, Julie Smithson, who continues to support her daughter as she balances the business and school workload.

"The relationship is quite interesting. She is my boss now."

After a successful fundraising campaign to place the first order, the CEO of Made by Abi Inc. approached a manufacturer in China. She's now busy selling the shoes through online sales, while she still works on opening her own retail shop, the Love Store. She'll also have a booth at this weekend's Waterfront Festival.

> **"You can't give up. It will take much longer than you expect."**
> Abi Smithson

A pair of Hippy Chick sandals goes for $89.99 US, while Beach Bum flats are sold for $39.99 US each.

It's been a learning process for the Grade 5 student, whose idea for sandals with a heart shape was triggered by an "ugly tan line" she once noticed on her mom's foot two summers ago.

"I've learned that you can't do everything on your own," she said, adding that she has needed a lot of guidance through design, marketing and sales.

She's now working for a mega shipment of 10,000 pairs. She also plans to increase the brand, with new styles that include a Love Sandals Rockstar, a men's line of sandals that will have the shape of a star instead of a heart.

With her mantra, Dream Big and Follow Your Heart, Abi wants to serve as a role model for other youngsters who may wish to venture into business. It's possible, she said, but takes a lot of patience and determination.

"You can't give up. It will take much longer than you expect," she warned.

Tunnel tale can be told

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority waited almost a month after discovering the hand-dug tunnel near York University before alerting authorities. Email records obtained through freedom of information requests show how public officials were initially blasé about the discovery but grew alarmed once the extent of the sophisticated engineering was discovered. The public might never have known about the tunnel had its existence not been leaked to the press five weeks later.

1 THE DISCOVERY

On Dec. 19 last year, TRCA compliance officer Michael Brestansky was walking through the wooded area near the Rexall Centre at Steeles Ave. W and Jane St., when he saw a pile of dirt and a hole in a hillside.

"Photos were taken and I did not approach. I observed from the opposite side of the creek," wrote Brestansky in a report emailed to superiors. "I discussed my findings with (manager) Brian Moyle and we decided to investigate further once we returned from the Christmas holidays."

2 THE INVESTIGATION

It wasn't until Jan. 14 of this year that Brestansky returned and, noticing a cat coming out of the hole, he called two other TRCA employees for backup before approaching to investigate.

"Upon arriving at the site we did not see any footprints in the snow around the fill or dugout. Brian Moyle approached with caution and identified himself as TRCA staff," Brestansky wrote.

The three men fanned out and discovered a fire pit a short way up the slope. Under some logs there was fabric and, under that, a piece of plywood covered with dirt.

"Once we removed the lid we noticed a large excavated hole with a ladder leading down to the bottom. Photos were taken. We also noticed a power cord, hose and a tunnel with a door. We closed the hatch and decided to notify Toronto Police," wrote Brestansky.

Two hours later, with three police officers on site, everyone seemed flummoxed by the find and was unwilling to take charge of the situation.

The site of the tunnel found near one of the venues for the Pan American Games is shown during a news conference in Toronto on Feb. 24. TORONTO POLICE

3 POLICE INVESTIGATE

In the weeks that followed, police conducted their investigation, requesting copies of video from surveillance cameras in the area and sending out a questionnaire to all TRCA employees. Though it's not clear exactly when, during this period, the tunnel was filled in.

4 THE MEDIA LEAK

The email correspondence on the subject goes quiet for 10 days, until Feb. 23, when a CBC producer emailed to ask for comment to include in a report being aired that evening about "a discovery." Just after 5 p.m., the CBC posted a story on its website, reporting that "a large and sophisticated tunnel was dug" near a future Pan Am Games venue, and a deluge of questions about suspected terrorism soon arrived.

5 WHOSE LAND IS IT?

The story made it to the U.S. and soon the New York Times and NBC were making inquiries. The TRCA was forced to admit it couldn't confirm who owns the land the tunnel was on.

Internal emails suggested that it was TRCA land, but no one was 100 per cent sure.

Eventually, without a definite answer, Sikorski was forced to tell the New York Times: "It's likely on our property, but because it's in a wooded area with no property lines we cannot confirm absolutely without conducting a survey."

6 THE DIGGER IS FOUND

The tunnel stayed in the headlines for several days before police announced they had found the culprits.

On March 5, in an interview with the Toronto Sun, 22-year-old construction worker Elton McDonald admitted to having dug the tunnel.

Tunnel digger, Elton McDonald, in Toronto. GOFUNDME

As media scrambled to ask why the city didn't press trespassing charges, the TRCA was finally able to confirm that the tunnel was indeed on TRCA land and not a city road right-of-way.

STORY AND PHOTOS: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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ROM experts are digging museum's new addition

PALEONTOLOGY

Triceratops worth waiting 66 million years for

Chris Bateman
For Metro | Toronto

Sixty-six million years ago, a Triceratops died in what would eventually become the badlands of South Dakota. Its body was quickly entombed in mud from a nearby flooding river.

Today, experts from the Royal Ontario Museum are on a mission to the place where the mighty beast fell in an effort to bring more of its bones back to Toronto.

The ancient remains are buried on a ranch in Harding County, a rural area about 400 kilometres from the Canadian border south of Regina. Although numerous dinosaur remains have been discovered in the area, a relatively complete Triceratops skeleton is special — only a few dozen have ever been found.

"We basically have representation of the whole skeleton, and for Triceratops this is actually pretty rare," said David Evans, a curator of dinosaurs at the ROM who's currently headed to the dig site.

"The area is known as the T. rex capital of the world, and of course Triceratops lived alongside T. rex," Evans said. "Our hope is actually that we will be able to put the skeleton up across from the T. rex in the gallery ... so you would walk between a showdown of the T. rex and Triceratops."

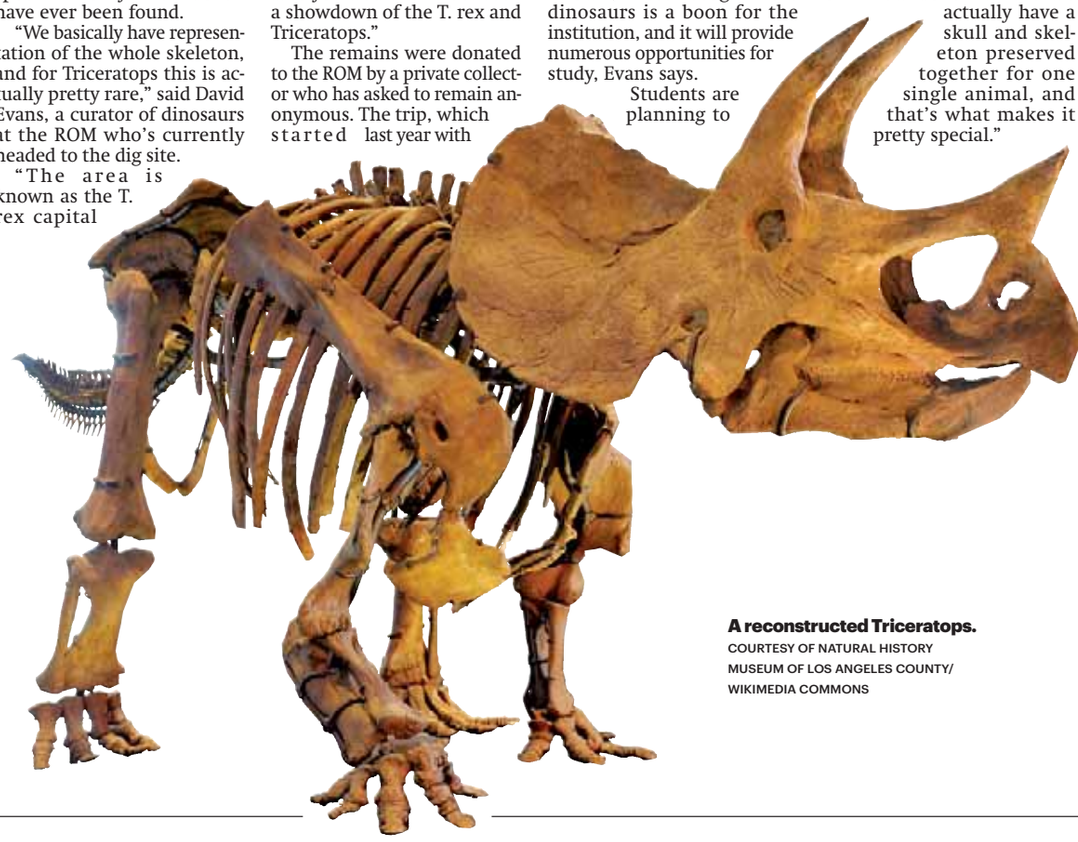
The remains were donated to the ROM by a private collector who has asked to remain anonymous. The trip, which started last year with the recovery of 65 bones, is being paid for by a charitable donation and is due to wrap up by the end of the summer.

Owning a near complete skeleton of one of the best-known, most recognizable dinosaurs is a boon for the institution, and it will provide numerous opportunities for study, Evans says.

Students are planning to examine the bones to determine the lifespan of a typical Triceratops and how fast they grew.

"It's a reasonably significant find," Evans says. "Ours is one of a few dozen where we actually have a skull and skeleton preserved together for one single animal, and that's what makes it pretty special."

The ROM's Eleanor LeBlanc and Kevin Seymour. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO



A reconstructed Triceratops. COURTESY OF NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY/ WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

6 THINGS ABOUT THE 'THREE HORN FACE'

1. Triceratops lived what is now North America during the Late Cretaceous period, the same time and place as the mighty Tyrannosaurus rex.
2. Although they presented a formidable challenge to T. rex, Triceratops were herbivores, which means they were plant eaters.
3. Triceratops had an enormous range from present day Texas into western Canada. Fossils have been found as far north as Red Deer, Alta.
4. Adult specimens weighed more than two full-sized African elephants. The skulls alone can be more than two metres long.
5. Triceratops means "three horn face." The horns, along with other armaments, would have provided a strong line of defense against marauding T. rex.
6. Triceratops lived until the very end of the reign of dinosaurs.

WILDLIFE

Menacing red-winged blackbirds staking claim to their turf

A red-winged blackbird launches an unprovoked surprise attack on a Canada Goose near the Music Garden at Queen's Quay. Male red-wings are fiercely territorial, especially during the May-to-July mating season. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ian Mosby was jogging through Riverdale Park on Tuesday morning when he was ambushed.

The assailant swooped down on him near the bottom of the footbridge spanning the Don River.

"I felt something grab my hat, and I heard the flutter of wings," he said. "I felt it again and I turned around and there was a blackbird there, and it kept circling my head until I was out of its range. It was bizarre."

He had unknowingly encroached on the territory of a male red-winged blackbird. The bird attacked him again on his way back and dive-bombed two other joggers and an unsuspecting cyclist.

He tried to warn other pedestrians about the danger ahead. "I told everyone who was coming, 'There's this bird. It's going to attack,' and I don't think anyone believed me."

Mosby, a post-doctoral fellow in history at McMaster, isn't the only one in the city to have fallen prey to a red-winged blackbird recently. The same day, a user on the online social forum Reddit wrote he was attacked by the same species of bird on the West Railpath.

> **"I'll keep my eyes out for a red-winged blackbird with a menacing look on its face.**
> Ian Mosby

"Horrified, I (ran) away like a little girl," he said.

In Ottawa last week, a red-winged blackbird was caught on video guarding Parliament Hill and pouncing on passers-by. The "Parliament Hill Bird" has since reappeared on Twitter.

Justin Peter, communications director at the Toronto Ornithological Club, said most male red-winged blackbirds won't attack humans, but some may be especially aggressive now because it is their breeding season. The female, which can be recognized by its streaky brown plumage, is "more low-key and doesn't attack," he said.

"Generally from what I've seen (the males) strike people on the top or back of the head," he said. "They're being careful not to put themselves in harm's way, to deliver the maximum blow with the least risk to themselves."

Red-winged blackbirds are one of the most abundant species of bird in North America and typically nest in marshy areas and near water, he said. In Toronto, he said one could expect to find them near the lakeshore and in High Park.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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ONTARIO NEWS FROM AROUND THE PROVINCE

Police believe two wanted in man's death heading to B.C.
Police believe two people wanted in the death of a Toronto-area man could be headed to British Columbia.

Vancouver police say Clyde Marshall of New Brunswick and Sabrina Chouart of Quebec may be travelling to the Lower Mainland. Marshall and Chouart are wanted in the death of Sina Parsi, whose body was found on Friday.

A video released by Toronto police Monday shows a man and a woman with a large brown dog walking down the hall of the eighth floor of the Toronto apartment building where police say Parsi's body was discovered.

Police said Monday they believed the pair was travelling with the dog and were likely hitchhiking rather than using the train or bus because of the animal.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Authorities take down online romance scam website
Police say they have taken down an online romance scam that investigators say cost seven people $1.5 million. York Regional Police say they have laid over 40 charges against nine people in connection with the case and believe there are more victims. They allege the group had been operating a criminal network that targeted women on dating websites. They say the group created false profiles, using the names Benjamin D. Baker and Ryan Hull, and worked hard to create emotional, trusting relationships with these women.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Correction
The TTC has taken on a $24 million overhaul to extend the life of some streetcars to 2024. The number was incorrect in a story on Page 4 of Tuesday's paper.

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Devon McPherson, with her therapy dog Barkley, during her graduation from York University with a Bachelor of Arts in Individualized Studies yesterday. CARLOS OSORIO/TORONTO STAR

Lending a helpful paw

ANXIETY

About 32.8% of students say they are have elevated stress

Barkley the dog went to every class and exam with York University student Devon MacPherson. So it was only right, on Tuesday morning, that he would walk across the stage with her at convocation — clad in a cap and gown like the rest of the graduates.

The two bravely posed for photos on stage, to whoops and cheers from the crowd, ending one part of their journey together. MacPherson said Barkley deserves the pomp and circumstance of convocation just as much as she does.

MacPherson had been attending Nipissing University for two years when she decided to come home. It wasn't only writing exams that would induce the anxiety, she says. "It would inhibit my studying because I was so nervous.

Diagnosed with an anxiety disorder in 2011, MacPherson tried counselling and anxiety medication, but being an animal-lover, she believed a service dog would be the best treatment.

If Barkley detects a change in MacPherson's oxytocin levels, he gives her a nudge as a warning that her anxiety is going to rise. She then knows to take a break.

MacPherson received her degree in individualized studies with a focus in the human/animal bond. She will continue her studies at the master's level in York's critical disabilities program. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THERAPY DOGS

Fighting anxiety
Therapy dogs are not rigorously trained, but are often used to provide comfort and relief for people in settings such as hospitals and nursing homes, and in stressful situations like exam season at schools. It has been proven to improve morale.

25%	31%	47%
Approximately 25 per cent of Canadians will have at least one anxiety disorder in their lifetime.	About 31 per cent of students report that they consistently feel unhappy or depressed.	In all, 47 per cent of students report that they feel constantly under strain.

SOURCE: ANXIETY DISORDER ASSOCIATION OF CANADA; CAMH 2004 CANADIAN CAMPUS STUDY

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Teachers seeking $3.2B, boards say

EDUCATION

But labour dispute is 'not about money,' union argues

The union representing Ontario's public elementary teachers has tabled more than $3.2 billion worth of demands, including a 3 per cent raise each year over three years plus cost of living increases, says the association representing school boards.

"There's been a lot of misinformation and assertions with the negotiations process, and certainly we felt it was time to ensure the public understood both sides," said Michael Barrett, president of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, of the move to disclose its estimates of a proposal from the 76,000-member Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO).

However, the union responded by saying it "has not formally tabled any salary position ... instead it agreed only to talk about non-monetary issues that have an impact on student learning."

"I have said all along that the current discussions are not about money," president Sam Hammond said in a written release. "ETFO has not tabled a formal monetary position at the central bargaining table. Instead we have focused on non-monetary issues such as class size, fair and transparent hiring practices, teacher professionalism and other issues."

However, Barrett said the $3.2 billion includes the sought-after salary increase, "and it would be all of their demands, which could include things such as an increase in sick days, or in less prep time or reduced class sizes."

"But the bulk of it is certainly the salary (demand)."

Weeks ago, ETFO negotiators walked away from provincial talks, saying they would only return when contract clawbacks were removed from the table. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BACKGROUND

Teacher salary increases:
2004-05: **2%**
2005-06: **2%**
2006-07: **2.5%**
2007-08: **3%**
2008-09: **3%**
2009-10: **3%**
2010-11 **3%**
2011-12: **3%**
2012-13: **nil**
2013-14: **nil**
2014-15: **nil**
SOURCE: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

WALKOUT

Protesting students, parents will get report cards after all

Toronto elementary students will receive their final marks after all.

In a change of plans, the Toronto District School Board revealed Tuesday it will hire staff to help input grades and get report cards out to its elementary students by mail by mid-July.

Frustration over report cards has been mounting since the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) decided not to enter electronic marks to protest the intentions of school boards to increase class sizes.

The work-to-rule action is permitted because teachers are in a legal strike position.

Although teachers provided marks to principals, larger school boards such as York, Peel and Toronto have decided the cost of having administrators enter the data would be too high. Instead, students in those boards were expected to receive placement letters indicating which class they will be in when school resumes.

Principals have been overwhelmed by phone calls from upset parents, and the decision sparked protests by students in several elementary schools.

Some 40 students in Grade 7 and 8 at Hodgson Senior Public School poured out of class Tuesday to tell their teachers, their classmates and the public driving by on Davisville Ave: "We want report cards!"

With every passing car, bus, taxi and truck that honked in support, the cheers rose.

"I think it's wrong for teachers to be using us against the TDSB," said student Rosie Nichols. "They're punishing us for something we didn't do wrong."

Several dozen students walked out of Toronto's Glenview Middle School Friday in a similar protest.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Students protest outside Hodgson Senior Public School over report cards Tuesday morning. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cycling tragedies lead to shortage of ghost bikes

CYCLING

Group behind memorials is looking for donations

Chris Bateman
For Metro | Toronto

Each of this year's three fatal bike crashes in Toronto occurred in an area without cycling infrastructure, and that has advocates worried.

"It's tragic, quite frankly," said Jared Kolb, executive director of Cycle Toronto. "No one should have to risk their lives by simply going out for a bicycle ride."

All of the deaths have come since May — a rapid rate that has left Advocacy for Respect for Cyclists, a group that leaves ghost bike memorials at the sites of fatal cycling incidents, running out of stock.

A Facebook post from a member of the group is calling for donations of unwanted bikes that can be sprayed white and left on streets as permanent reminders of deadly collisions.

Two memorial rides are planned in the coming days to honour Zhi Yong Kang and an unnamed 26-year-old.

The cycling deaths are also coming at a time when new bike lanes are being planned on major streets. After seeing early success, the city is planning to extend the Adelaide and Richmond street cycle lanes to Parliament Street, broadening the scope of an existing pilot project. Figures showed the lanes significantly boosted the number of bicycle users on each corridor without slowing auto traffic.

Toronto and East York Community Council affirmed support on Tuesday for separated lanes on Dundas, River and Shuter streets, east of Sherbourne. The motion was forwarded to the public works committee for information.

"Bike infrastructure works for everybody," says Yvonne Bambrick, author of The Urban Cycling Survival Guide. "Bike infrastructure makes the roads work better, and it makes them more predictable."

Though the real and planned upgrades are being broadly welcomed, Kolb says there is still more work to be done to better safeguard the city's more than 1.5 million cyclists.

"We think that the city has really got to get serious with building a citywide grid of protected bike lanes and funding cycling infrastructure," he says.

Cyclists mark a moment of silence earlier this month at a memorial to Roger du Toit. CONTRIBUTED

> **One of the things we definitely see with most cycling fatalities is that they are happening in places where there is no infrastructure**
> Jared Kolb, Cycle Toronto

Jared Kolb METRO FILE

FATAL CRASHES

Who: Roger du Toit
Where: Wrentham Place and Roxborough Street East
When: May 19
The 75-year-old architect, who contributed to the design of the CN Tower, among other prominent Toronto projects, died May 31, a few weeks after being hit by an SUV in Rosedale. No charges were laid.
He was honoured during a memorial ride earlier this month.

Who: Zhi Yong Kang
Where: Finch Avenue West and Tobermory Drive
When: June 11
A 22-year-old Richmond Hill woman faces multiple changes following the death of the 44-year-old cyclist, including criminal negligence causing death and impaired driving causing death.
A memorial ride is planned for 9 a.m. Thursday starting from Matt Cohen Park (Spadina Road and Bloor Street West).

Who: 26-year-old whose identity has not been released
Where: Avenue Road near Davenport Road
When: June 13
The cyclist was reportedly riding south on Avenue, attempting to turn east when he was hit by a northbound car. The driver fled the scene. A 19-year-old from Keswick is facing multiple charges.
A memorial ride is planned for 2 p.m. Saturday starting from Matt Cohen Park.

IN BRIEF

Boyfriend foils robbery
Toronto Police have appealed for the public's help after an alleged robbery attempt on Monday at 10:45 p.m.

The police said that a 30-year-old woman was in a parking lot in the Avenue Road and Bloor Street West area when a man approached her and demanded money.

Her boyfriend chased away the man, who was last seen running north on Avenue Road. He is described as dark skinned, five-foot-six to five-foot-eight, 130 to 140 pounds, with a slim build and short dark brown hair. METRO

CRIME

Woman offers $1,000 reward for stolen laptop

It's impossible to place a dollar value on memories, but one Toronto woman is offering $1,000 for the return of her laptop or data containing a documentary about the two children she lost to a degenerative disease.

Diane Wilson, with Det. Jason Albanese of the Toronto Police, asked for the public's help Tuesday afternoon, pleading directly to those who stole the laptop.

"I want to appeal to them to please come forward and do the right thing," he said, inviting Wilson to tell her story.

"We're a special needs family," said Wilson. She said that she wanted to share the challenges and the blessings of having two children with high special needs with her documentary.

Wilson was having breakfast with her surviving son Jarrett Gill on Saturday morning between 11:15 a.m. and 12:15 a.m. in the St. Clair Avenue West-Dufferin Street area when someone stole the bag containing her laptop and external hard drive from inside her parked car.

The car is a black, four-door 2012 Buick Verano and it was parked on the north side of St. Clair Ave. W. near the restaurant. She describes the stolen bag as being made of silver, woven fabric.

"I get how people do things for reasons maybe other people can't understand, but anyone who knew what was on [the laptop and hard drive] would want to return the data," she said Monday. "I would thank them immensely."
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

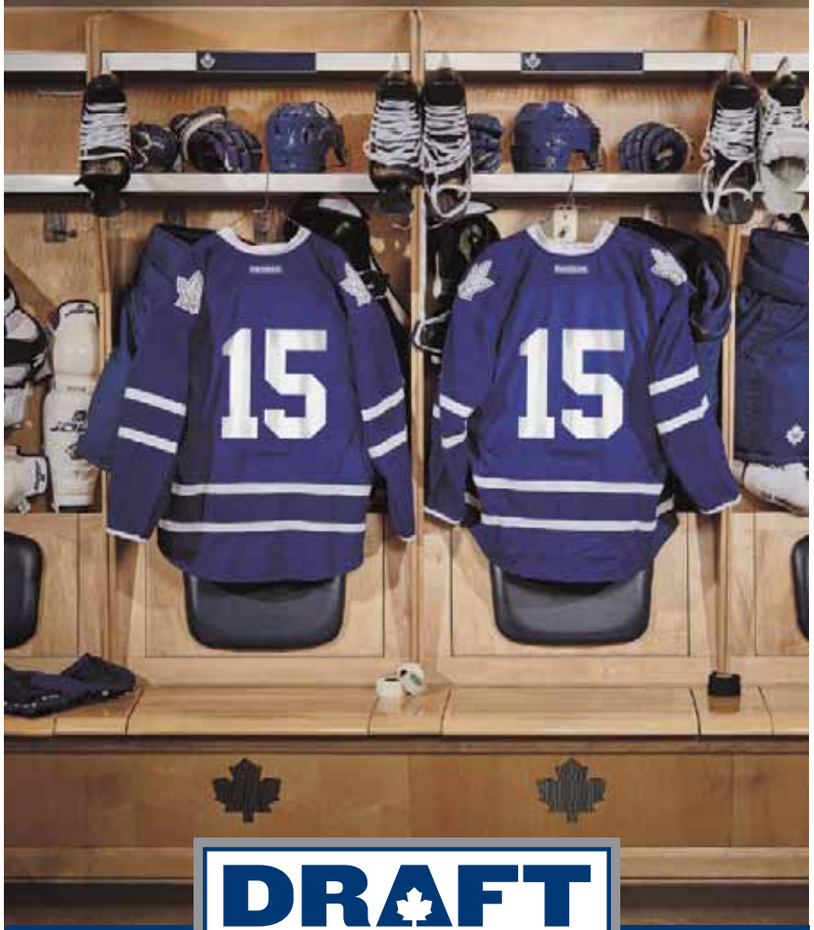
CALL POLICE

Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-1300, or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477).

Diane Wilson and son Jarrett hold photos of her deceased kids Carling, left, and Colton. Wilson's laptop, containing family videos, was stolen Saturday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

925 PLAYERS HAVE WORN OUR SWEATER

WHO WILL BE NEXT?



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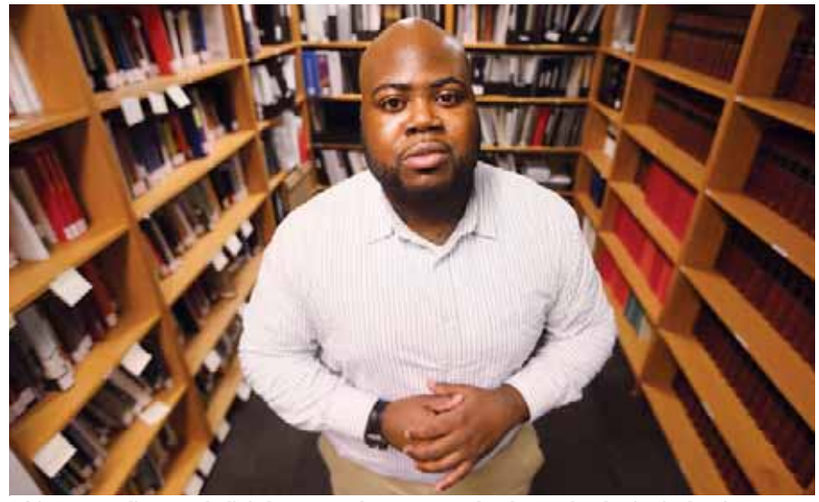

African Canadian Legal Clinic lawyer Anthony Morgan has been a loud voice in the city's carding debate. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Wynne to regulate police carding

LAW ENFORCEMENT

But critics say the problem can be solved by banning it

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne says the government needs to regulate police carding, but first needs to nail down exactly what the word means.

"We use this word as though everybody understands exactly what it is and what it means," she said. The government is planning to standardize the practice and, on Tuesday, announced a series of consultations this summer. Regulatory changes are expected to be announced this fall.

But people who've been fighting carding for years say there's already a very clear understanding of what it means. "We don't need to consult on what that practice is, we need to solve that by banning it," said NDP MPP Jagmeet Singh.

WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The three pillars of carding:

Metro asked Anthony Morgan, a lawyer with the African Canadian Legal Clinic, for a definition of carding. He said it means: Police arbitrarily stopping people and recording their information in a police database.

Here's how that breaks down into three pillars of carding.

Arbitrariness

Arbitrariness is key; police can, and should, stop people they actually need to investigate because they fit a clear, detailed description of a suspect in an active investigation, Morgan said.

But, he said, "stopping someone on the basis of race or who only generally fits the description or looks like they're up to no good" constitutes an arbitrary encounter.

Recording of information

Officers can talk to an innocent person on the street, Morgan said.

But, if police record personal information and put it in a database to be used in investigations, that's carding.

The database can lead to innocent people losing out on jobs or volunteer positions because of information gained by carding, Morgan said.

A police stop

It's important to remember that carding involves stopping a person, Morgan said.

Innocent people have the right to walk away from police if they're not being detained. If they are being detained, there are many rights that come with that and those should be explained at the beginning of an encounter, he said.

If someone does have their information documented as part of an investigation, they should be given a copy of what was recorded, details about why they were stopped, and the officer's identity.

COLLEGE AND SPADINA

Police investigate sex assault

Toronto police are investigating after a man allegedly broke into an apartment and sexually assaulted a woman early Tuesday.

According to police, a 27-year-old woman was awoken around 4:30 a.m. Tuesday when an unknown man broke into her apartment in the College Street and Spadina Avenue area. The man sexually assaulted her and then fled.

The suspect is described as a white man in his late 20s, about five-foot-seven to five-foot-10, with a medium build, short brown hair and an unshaven face.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-7474, or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477).

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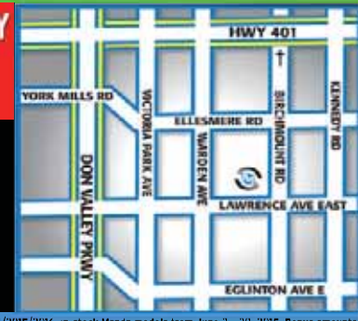

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Liberal Party Leader Justin Trudeau holds up a party brochure at an announcement on open government in Ottawa on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trudeau vows to reform the vote

ELECTION

Liberal leader wants to 'restore democracy'

Justin Trudeau wants this fall's vote to be the last federal election conducted under the first-past-the-post electoral system.

And, if the Liberal leader becomes prime minister, it may also be the last election in which Canadians can choose not to vote, as well as the last in which the only way to vote is by marking an X on a paper ballot.

Changing the way Canadians vote is just one element of a sweeping, 32-point plan to "restore democracy in Canada" that Trudeau announced Monday.

Some of the measures have been previously announced, such as strengthening access-to-information laws; empowering backbench MPs by allowing more free votes and beefing up legislative oversight by Commons committees; and ending partisanship in the scandal-plagued Senate.

Others are new or build upon previous commitments.

Perhaps the most ambitious promise, however, is Trudeau's vow to do away with first-past-the-post (FPTP) in time for the next election.

The current system badly distorts voters' choices, allowing a party to win the majority of seats in the House of Commons with less than 40 per cent of the vote, and delivering wildly different seat counts to parties that win similar shares.

Trudeau promised he'd introduce electoral reform legislation within 18 months of forming government. The legislation would be based on the recommendations of a special, all-party parliamentary committee mandated to study alternatives to first-past-the-post, including ranked ballots and proportional representation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BUDGET

Mulcair touts fiscal credentials

Opposition Leader Tom Mulcair touted the strong record New Democrats have had when it comes to balancing budgets in a major speech Tuesday that sought to position his party as a fiscally responsible government-in-waiting.

On a day that resembled an election campaign — the main parties were all on the hustings — Mulcair took his economic vision to Canada's financial heartland, taking gentle jabs at his main political rivals, Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau.

"I don't believe budgets balance themselves, nor do I believe they become balanced just because you pass a law — zap, you're balanced," Mulcair told the Economic Club of Canada.

Mulcair talked about NDP icons such as Tommy Douglas, Roy Romanow and former Manitoba premier Gary Doer — provincial leaders who balanced budgets — even as he took a shot at ex-Liberal MP Bob Rae, who racked up a massive deficit in the recession of the early 1990s as the New Democrat premier of Ontario.

"The federal department of finance's own reports show that NDP governments are the best at balancing the books when in office," Mulcair said. "There was one exception — but he turned out to be a Liberal."

Harper's job-creation and economic-stimulation plans, Mulcair said, simply aren't working, leaving current generations worse off than their parents for the first time in Canadian history.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CEO implied extortion: Journalist

COURT

Freelancer suing John Furlong for defamation

A journalist who is suing former Vancouver Olympic CEO John Furlong for defamation says she was devastated and shocked after he implied she tried to extort money from him.

Laura Robinson told a civil trial that she was deeply disturbed by remarks Furlong made after her article was published in the Georgia Straight newspaper about his past in Burns Lake, B.C.

"There was no inkling in all my questions that I was part of some extortion scheme. It's a federal offence. It was just shocking," she testified on Tuesday.

The story included allegations by eight former students that Furlong had beaten and taunted them while working as a physical education teacher at a Roman Catholic elementary school in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

At a news conference in September 2012 after the story was published, Furlong said that he had been contacted prior to the 2010 Winter Olympic Games and was told that "for a payment it could be made to go away." He did not say who contacted him.

His lawyer John Hunter told reporters outside the courthouse Tuesday that his client "never" accused Robinson of extortion, but he declined to elaborate.

Hunter has said that Furlong's defence at trial will be qualified privilege, meaning he had a right to respond to Robinson's "attacks."

The lawyer has not yet had an opportunity to cross-examine Robinson. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former Vancouver Olympics CEO John Furlong is pictured at B.C. Supreme Court in Vancouver, Monday.
JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

METROLINX
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Public Open House:
Finch West Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project
Maintenance and Storage Facility

The Finch West LRT project will add 11 kilometres of new rapid transit along Finch Avenue from the planned Finch West subway station at Keele Street to Humber College. The new service will provide improved, faster and reliable transit.

Metrolinx is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) to support the Finch West LRT line. The location of the MSF is a vacant property on Finch Avenue West between Norfinch Drive and York Gate Boulevard. A Notice of Commencement was issued on May 15, 2015.

Metrolinx invites you to attend a public open house to learn about plans for the MSF, the potential environmental impacts of the MSF and the recommended measures to mitigate any effects identified through our planning activities.

At this public information meeting, Metrolinx will:

- Provide an overview of the Finch West LRT project
- Re-introduce the MSF project
- Present the preferred design concept for the MSF
- Present the environmental impact assessment results
- Seek comments on the proposed mitigation measures

The meeting will provide an opportunity to view displays, submit comments and speak one-on-one with staff.

Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2015
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: St. Wilfrid Catholic School Gym
Address: 1685 Finch Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario

For more information:

Email: finchwest@metrolinx.com **Tel: 416-869-3600 ext. 5739**
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HALIFAX

Jet that crashed was mechanically sound

An Air Canada jet that crashed about 200 metres short of a runway at the Halifax airport during a March snowstorm had no major mechanical problems, the Transportation Safety Board says in a preliminary report released Tuesday.

Of the 133 passengers and five crew members aboard the flight from Toronto, 25 were injured.

The independent board's update says the Airbus 320-200 was correctly configured for landing, its air speed was consistent with a normal approach and there were no mechanical deficiencies with its engines, flight controls, landing gear and navigation systems.

25

25 of the 133 passengers and crew of Flight 624 were injured while landing during a snowstorm.

Lead investigator Doug McEwen said the investigation has not been completed, but his team has already taken a close look at the plane's engines, airframe and components.

The board's update also confirmed that the weather at the time of the crash was poor.

At 12:15 a.m. on March 29, the wind was gusting at 48 kilometres per hour from the north-northwest and forward visibility was 800 metres amid snow and drifting snow, the statement says. The plane hit the ground at 12:43 a.m. As well, the board says vertical visibility above the ground was just 91 metres.

Passengers have said the plane circled the airport for a half hour because the pilot said he was waiting for better visibility.

Shortly after the crash, Air Canada Chief Operating Officer Klaus Goersch said the weather was appropriate for landing.

In an emailed statement, an Air Canada spokesman said the airline wouldn't comment on an interim report.

The jet's flight-data recorder and cockpit voice recorder have been examined, but the board says it has yet to look into pilot training, experience and "human performance aspects."

McEwen said human performance refers to how members of the flight crew responded to one another in the cockpit and how they interacted with the cabin crew. The board's ongoing investigation will include producing an animation of the flight profile and reviewing cabin crashworthiness and the passenger evacuation procedures, among other things. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

American arrested at Manitoba border crossing
Border officers in Manitoba have arrested a man from Minnesota after they found a portable drug production lab in a backpack.

The Canada Border Services Agency says the man's car was stopped at the border crossing in Sprague on June 4.

Officers found materials for a suspected methamphetamine lab in a backpack in the vehicle.

They also seized a plastic bottle containing 85 grams of what they suspect is meth.

Specialized RCMP officers and firefighters were called in to dismantle the lab.

Derek Olson of Wadena, Minn. is charged with production of methamphetamine, importing/exporting methamphetamine and possession for the purpose of trafficking. He remains in custody. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The Donald seeks Republican nod to become The President

U.S. ELECTION

American dream will be back, iconic developer vows

Donald Trump might never be president of the United States — at least not judging by the mockery from Democrats and mournful tweets from some Republicans following his campaign launch Tuesday.

But he just might have succeeded in carving out a place in American political history, with one of the more unusual announcement speeches of any candidate.

After toying for years with the idea of a presidential run, the bombastic billionaire real-estate mogul, who says he has a net worth of $8.7 billion, announced his plan to seek the Republican nomination.

He proceeded to speak without notes for nearly an hour, during which he:

• **Insulted Mexicans:**

Trump promised to build a wall along the border and force Mexico to pay for it. "They are not our friend, believe me. They are killing us economically. The U.S. has become a dumping ground for everybody else's problems. When Mexico sends its people, they are not sending their best... They are bringing drugs. They are bringing crime, their rapists, and some I assume are good people."

• **Made bold promises:**

"I will be the greatest jobs president that God ever created, I tell you that. I'll bring back our jobs from China, Japan, Mexico, so many other places. And I'll bring back our money."

• **Drew sweeping conclusions from his Republican rivals' campaign launches, which he found lacking:**

"They didn't know the air conditioner didn't work. They sweated like dogs. They didn't know the room was too big... How are they gonna beat ISIS?"

Supporters of real-estate developer Donald Trump, above right, line the lobby of Trump Tower in New York Tuesday. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

• **Called many people stupid:**

America's leaders for paying interest on debt; New York State officials who allowed prisoners to escape — all branded with the same dreaded epithet: "How stupid are our leaders?"

• **Compared the Chinese to Super Bowl champion Tom Brady:**

"I just sold an apartment for $15 million to someone from China. Am I supposed to dislike them?... I love China. But their leaders are much smarter than our leaders. It's like having Tom Brady and the New England Patriots playing a high-school football team."

His speech carried several dire comparisons of the U.S. to a "Third World country" because of crumbling infrastructure.

But he concluded on a positive note: "Sadly, the American dream is dead. But if I get elected president, I will bring it back — bigger, and better and stronger."

THE CANDIAN PRESS

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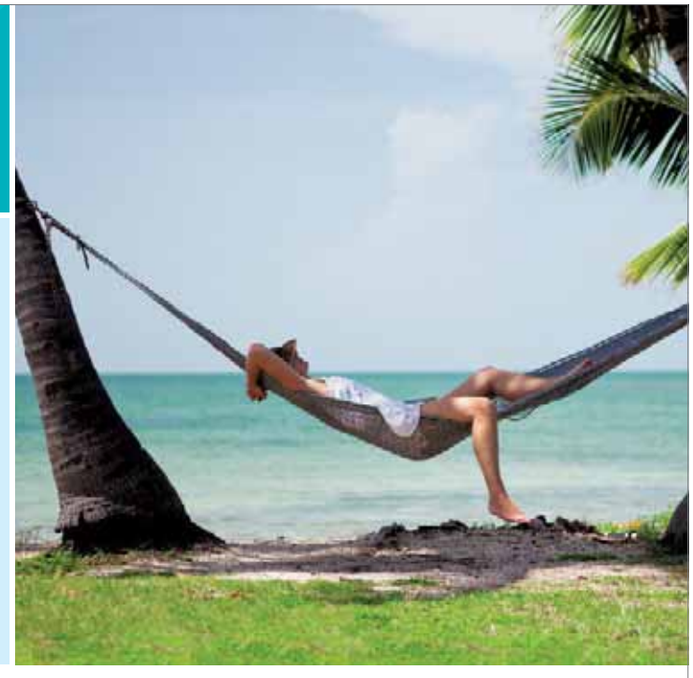

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PRIVACY STANDARDS

Activists depart from facial recognition talks

Retailers have the ability to scan your face digitally, and use that identification to offer you special prices or even recognize you as a prior shoplifter. But should they use it? Should they get your permission first?

Privacy advocates announced yesterday they have walked away from a U.S. government-run effort with industry intended to answer these questions.

The idea behind the negotiations was to hash out voluntary protocols for facial-recognition technology in a way that doesn't hurt consumers. The Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration, or NTIA, was acting as mediator.

The two sides had been meeting for 16 months, including last week, until the nine major privacy groups said they had hit a dead end and that "people deserve more protection than they are likely to get in this forum."

"At a base minimum, people should be able to walk down a public street without fear that companies they've never heard of are tracking their every movement — and identifying them by name — using facial recognition technology," the groups said. "Unfortunately, we have been unable to obtain agreement even with that basic, specific premise."

Industry groups said they still believe consensus could be found on issues such as transparency, notification and data security.

The ability to apply a unique signature to a person's face, even if you don't identify them by name, is particularly invasive, according to privacy advocates.

"You can change your password and your credit-card number; you cannot change your fingerprints or the precise dimensions of your face," the privacy groups said in yesterday's statement.

"Through facial recognition, these immutable, physical facts can be used to identify you, remotely and in secret, without any recourse." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS BOEING STRIKES BIG DEAL AT AIR SHOW Korean Air CEO Cho Yang-Ho and Boeing Commercial Airplanes president and CEO Ray Conner pose at the International Paris Airshow at Le Bourget. Boeing landed the biggest order of the show so far with a deal for 100 of its 737s yesterday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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More than 1 in 3 families at debt limit

POLL

Homeowners would face hard times with a 10% increase

Nearly half of Canadian homeowners are taking steps to cut their mortgage debt, but many would be in trouble if their monthly payments grew even slightly, a survey by Manulife Bank of Canada suggests.

Manulife said 40 per cent of the homeowners polled made extra mortgage payments during the past year, while 60 per cent did not. The average amount of additional payments was $6,300.

Manulife Bank of Canada's president and CEO Rick Lunny said it's encouraging that many homeowners are taking steps to reduce their mortgage debt.

However, the survey also found more than a third of homeowners polled would face financial hardship if their mortgage payments increased by just 10 per cent.

Manulife polled 2,372 Canadian homeowners in all provinces from Feb. 10-27. Respondents were all between the ages of 20 and 59 and had a minimum household income of $50,000.

The polling industry's professional body, the Marketing Research and Intelligence Association, said online surveys cannot be assigned a margin of error. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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If you're working hard these days without enough to show for it, I understand. I used to work hard myself – the 18-hour days – the 7-day weeks. I was a struggling musician trying to provide for my 4 kids. But I never made big money until I discovered the secrets of investing successfully in US real estate – and then I was able to work a lot less.

I've arranged a FREE training in Toronto, and I want you to be there with me. Seating is extremely limited, so you need to call to reserve your spot TODAY before all of our seats sell out.

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The profits in income-producing properties are amazing. It's simple to do, and it happens fast when you know my "insider" secrets. You don't have to quit your job. You don't need to open an expensive office. You don't need a real estate license and you don't need to spend a lot of time to start. You don't even need to travel to the US – but you may want to spend some time in the sun visiting your money-making properties!

WHAT DOES IT TAKE? Pick up your phone, and get registered today for my FREE training in your area. If you do that – nothing more, nothing less – the results will be hard to believe.

I invite you to join me and learn the lasting effects that Wealth in US Real Estate can provide for you and your financial future. If this appeals to you, then you need to HURRY up and call TODAY to learn how to obtain your own income-generating properties. Since my event is FREE, the spots will fill up lightning fast, and I would hate for you to miss out on this phenomenal opportunity to get on the road to financial freedom.

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, June 17, 2015

PRO CON

Is home-schooling a good idea?

YES: Home-schoolers are high achievers

Mom and dad make great teachers — and they're choosing to fill that role more than ever. A Fraser Institute study released Tuesday showed home-schooling grew 29 per cent in Canada from 2007 to 2012, while public school enrollment fell 2.5 per cent. The authors cited research suggesting home-schooled children score higher on academic tests, if they follow a structured program. The institute, which is conservative and favours parental choice, also pointed out that home-schooling saves governments $256 million each year.

NO: School is the best place to learn social skills

Many parents worry home-schooled kids miss out on the intangible benefits of going to school that are hard to capture in studies, such as learning how to make friends. Also, the evidence of home-schooling's academic benefits is scant — one Canadian study the Fraser Institute cites had only 74 participants. Another, though its sample size was in the thousands, involved home-schooling families who chose to participate and was authored by the president of the National Home Education Research Institute.

Science and society show gender is fluid

THE SCIENCE
Stephanie Orford

Until very recently, we thought about gender the way we think about signs on washroom doors. There are two options: male and female.

But at least since endocrinologist Harry Benjamin first published research about his transgender patients in the 1960s, scientists have observed that people have a range of gender identities.

"The notion ... that there are only two sexes has actually been frequently overturned in science," says Elizabeth Saewyc, a professor of nursing and adolescent medicine at UBC who leads the Stigma and Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre at UBC. "There's a bit more of a continuum."

Now Canadians' awareness of gender variation is finally catching up with the science. As discussions about gender identity hit the mainstream, we need to make sure sensitivity and respect are always part of the conversation.

Many Canadians had a gender epiphany earlier this month when Caitlyn Jenner, formerly Bruce Jenner, pushed transgender issues into the mainstream with her Vanity Fair cover. Last week pop star Miley Cyrus revealed her fluid gender identity in an interview with Paper Magazine.

The conversation is rippling across the politics and policy worlds, too. An Ontario judge has ruled that a transgender child whose parents were fighting over her identity should be allowed to discover that identity for herself (she identifies as female).

On June 1, the Alberta Bill of Rights was amended to include the rights of Albertans to determine their own gender identity and express it as they please.

As many as one in 100 people have gender identities that are different from their biological sex at birth.

Many biological causes of transgender identity have been suggested, but none have been proven definitively. It's a highly complicated interplay of genes and environment, and many aspects are still unknown.

Scientists do know gender identity is deeply ingrained early in life, likely before birth, says Saewyc.

As we find out more and grapple with the rights, social norms and expectations around the many variations of gender identity, Canadians need to accept and embrace that variations — much like variations in sexual orientation — are natural, normal and can't be changed.

Many biological causes of transgender identity have been suggested, but none proven definitively. It's a highly complicated interplay of genes and environment.

"It's really important to recognize and celebrate the diversity of human gender and sex," says Saewyc. "For far too long we have, as societies across the world, discriminated and stigmatized against people who are outside the stereotypical binary."

Stephanie Orford is a Vancouver-based writer. The Science appears every other Wednesday.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
metroview

Real change, not just election reform, would inspire youth

You know what's great?

Two of the big three political parties are promising electoral reform, in a bid to combat voter apathy.

It's already part of the NDP's election platform. Yesterday, the Liberals said they'll replace our first-past-the-post system with a process more in line with the popular vote.

It's worth a try, given the Conservatives' majority is based on the support of just one-quarter of eligible voters (39 per cent of ballots cast).

But you know what would be better? A party that bothered to speak to young people.

They — we — are at the heart of the problem. Youth turnout has been nosediving since the 80s, dragging the overall rate with it. Only 38.8 per cent of people 18 to 24 voted in the last election (compared to 61.1 per cent overall). And, crucially, we're not becoming voters as we age.

This isn't a fringe issue for Canadians. Our democracy is suffering. Politicians can get what they want no matter how few of us vote. We can't say the same.

And it's not a problem of engagement. As UBC politics professor Max Cameron told me, "Young people have an enormous vocation for public service and a great interest in public affairs, but very few express that in terms of partisan politics."

That's because partisan politics ignores us.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau cares so deeply about the middle class, it's all he seems to talk about. And just yesterday NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair gave his own speech claiming dedication to the middle class. Whoever they may imagine belongs to this class, it's not young people.

Politicians flick at the youth unemployment rate and believe that — just by acknowledging it's abysmal — we trust them to fix it. We don't. Same goes for climate change. Any plans to dramatically reduce tuition fees, by chance? Or rent costs?

No, the political parties aren't all the same, but they seem more like soda brands fighting for market share than alternate visions of how to organize society, as Cameron told me. Will the next government shift us away from oil production or close the wage gap, end the war on drugs or even dramatically shrink the public service?

As much as I scorn the word disruptive, I could use some disruptive politics — say, the opportunity to elect someone other than a white man, seeing as, you know, we're not all white men.

So, thanks for the election reforms, guys. But I'll be shocked if they inspire young Canadians who don't vote and may never.

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Your essential daily news

Drake, Buffy Sainte-Marie among nominees for Polaris Music Prize

Unshaven armpits all the rage

PERSONAL GROOMING

Women take on mainstream beauty standards with natural look

On social media and red carpets, from New York to China, hairy underarms are having a mainstream moment.

Women are proudly showing off their growth on Instagram and YouTube, and it's not just Miley Cyrus anymore. Jemima Kirke of Girls flashed her fair-colored au naturel look — earning some cringes — at the June 1 CFDA awards, one of the top fashion events of the year.

On Sina Weibo, a popular microblogging site in China, the women's rights activist known as Xiao Meili held an Armpit Hair Competition, complete with prizes that included condoms and a vibrator, to protest societal pressure on women to shave under there.

Her effort earned more than 1.7 million hits.

"In the past two decades, there have been a lot of commercials and advertising for hair removal cream and laser removal of hair that have talked about women needing to shave their underarm hair and that the armpit area should be clean," said the 25-year-old Xiao, whose real name is Xiao Yue.

"My mother's generation didn't care about that, but now it has become a headache for women in the summer as they have to consider whether to shave that area or not," she said.

Love it or hate it, not shaving under the arms has morphed into a call to action for other women as well who are looking to be free of the constraint or choose for themselves without ridicule.

Mom Katherine Anne True, a registered nurse in Raynham, Mass., recently showed off her underarm growth on Instagram, though she has not joined others there who sport hair they've dyed blue and other festive colours.

"I started it a few months ago before I knew it was a trend," said True, 30.

At first, it was just for fun. Then the extra hair was met by cringes from her five-year-old daughter and nine-year-old niece.

"When the girls told me I '(had) to shave those' and were grossed out it was kind of startling that these gender stereotypes were already so ingrained at these ages," True said. "I do it, or rather don't do it, for me but also as a reminder to my daughter that it's up to the individual what we decide to do with our bodies."

Her daughter is now unfazed. Her niece still tells her to shave.

BODY HAIR CHOICES

Expression of identity is the key

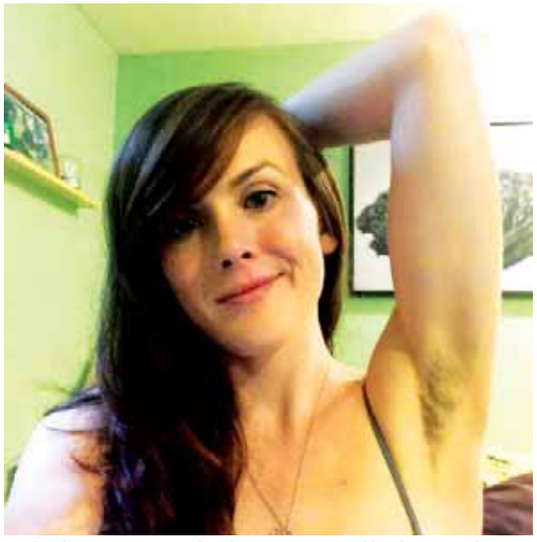
Maria Del Russo, a beauty editor for the millennial-focused fashion, style and beauty site Refinery29, said expression of identity is key in the mix. If there's any statement to be made, she said, it's this: "What one woman decides to do with her body hair is her business, and hers alone. For plenty of women, it's just hair."

Some celebrities have been sporting armpit hair forever. Lady Gaga used little shaggy turquoise wigs under her arms in 2011 while performing at the Much Music Awards to match the same colour in wigs for her head and an over-the-clothes crotch piece. Julia Roberts sported the grown-out look in 1999 at the London premiere of Notting Hill.

In parts of Europe and elsewhere around the world, it's never been about shorn. And until the rise of razors marketed specifically to women, along with sleeveless fashion at the turn of the 20th century, hair was far more there in North America, crossing over in more recent decades from a music fest-Earth mother ideal of femininity.

Photographer Ben Hopper in London has challenged the shorn mainstream in an online photo project he calls Natural Beauty. His collection of images includes Madonna and Roberts in full growth, along with models and everyday women through the decades.

There's a postcard from around 1920 portraying a young woman with crimped hair in a frilly dress provocatively flaunting bushy underarms. With lady marketing of razors, he explained, hair-free pits soon became the norm.



Katherine Anne True at her home. "I started it a few months ago before I knew it was a trend." At first, it was just for fun. Then the extra hair was met by cringes from her five-year-old daughter and nine-year-old niece. KATHERINE ANNE TRUE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jemima Kirke arrives at the 2015 CFDA Fashion Awards. EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Xiao said in China, pressure to shave has come from the West.

"Women's underarm shaving in China only has about 20 years of history and that is because of advertising, which has changed people's minds," she said.

Xiao is known for eye-catching protests, and three of her contest participants were among five women's rights activists whose detentions in March received worldwide attention. In 2013, she shaved her head to protest the way women have to get higher scores than men to be admitted to some university courses.

"To shave or not is up to the woman," she said. "The purpose of this contest is not to call on people not to shave their underarm hair. It's to not criticize those who don't."

Leila Noelliste, creator and editor of the hair site BlackGirlLongHair, posted a display of women showing off their growth and sees no downside.

"Much of what women consider beautiful is based on standards set by men, so it's refreshing to witness a woman-centred beauty movement," she said.

Angelique Serrano, beauty director for InStyle magazine, said there's clearly no one right way to approach the pits, on feminist, beauty or hygiene grounds. The magazine offered a tutorial on its website late last year on how to achieve neon Rainbow Brite tints with bleach and Manic Panic dye after the hashtag #dyedpits popped up on Twitter and Instagram.

"With the help of social media, the conversation is reaching a new level," she said. "People are sharing their personal choices in a public way."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New reality TV series dubbed 'poverty porn'

CONTROVERSY

Questionable motives leave some viewers seething

The Bailey Family are participants in the new reality show The Briefcase. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Consider: a reality show that spotlights the struggling middle class by handing families a cash windfall plus the option to help another deserving family to some, or even all, of that $100,000 gift.

Is this a chance for viewers to meet remarkable families who can use a little help and yet are drawn to help others? Or, as some are beefing, is this cruel, manipulative and "poverty porn?"

CBS' The Briefcase (Wednesday at 8 p.m. EDT) has set off a firestorm among certain TV critics and the 22,000-and-counting signers of a website petition whose battle cry is: "Don't let CBS exploit the poor and profit from this!"

The petitionistas are few in number when compared with last week's 4.9 million viewers of the show, but they have made a lot of noise, with a hearty assist from unquestioning media outlets.

Reality-TV veteran David Broome (The Biggest Loser) is the creator, executive producer and an on-camera host of The Briefcase, and he's flabbergasted by the knives drawn against it.

"It's as if the mission was to turn this into a class story: poverty-stricken families pitted against each other in a Hunger Games scenario," he marvels.

On the contrary, while the families are quite varied on the surface (for instance, a Bible-Belt family is paired with a Boston family headed by an interracial same-sex couple), the series hunts for common ground, while its participants spend the allotted 72 hours weighing a fundamental life issue: their own needs measured against those of others.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada set for third Amazing Race season

REALITY TELEVISION

Amazing Race Canada offers sneak peak of Season 3 duos

A pair of police officer pals, a UFC fighter and a transgender former cadet are among those suiting up for The Amazing Race Canada.

CTV has announced the first six teams competing on season 3 of the reality competition series, which premieres July 8.

Among the competitors are best friends Dana and Amanda from St. John's, N.L, who are police officers with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary.

UFC fighter Elias and girlfriend Max from Toronto are also in the race.

They'll square off against recently engaged former military cadets Michaela and Hamilton from from Centreville, N.S. Hamilton is a transgender man.

Rounding out the list are Montreal couple Nic and Sabrina and two teams of brothers: Hamilton's Gino and Jesse, and Brent and Sean from Musquodoboit Harbour, N.S.

A total of 12 teams will race to win more than $1 million in prizes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dana and Amanda, a pair of police officer pals are among those suiting up for The Amazing Race Canada. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Running in heels with dinosaurs

JURASSIC WORLD

Bryce Dallas Howard talks ankle-specific exercises

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Life

Actors pick up all sorts of new skills when working on big movies, but one area of expertise Bryce Dallas Howard never expected to master on the job is ankle health. But when your character spends the entire movie in a set of rather nice-looking high heels and you're being chased by killer dinosaurs, these things become important.

What are your memories from seeing the first film?
It's one of those experiences where I was so impressionable, and it was just such a vivid experience. I left remembering every single second of it. It was just a crazy-good movie. That film is genius. So yeah, I remember everything. I was making jokes with Chris before we started that I needed to bring back the high-waisted khaki shorts that Laura Dern made popular with Jurassic Park.

Your running in heels in this was very impressive.
I was obsessive with making sure that I didn't get injured. At this point, I know so much about the fitness of ankles. (laughs) It's completely disproportionate with overall fitness, which is really funny because I remember about half-way through I thought to myself, Man, my ankles are so strong. Should I be working out other parts of my body for a major motion picture? Hmm. It's all about the ankles. I loved that we kind of landed in this place where it was right for the character to have her heels on the whole time.

> **I loved that we kind of landed in this place where it was right for the character to have her heels on the whole time.**
> Bryce Dallas Howard

How do you pick up ankle-specific exercises?
I was really lucky because my driver turned out to be a UFC winner, this guy Pete Williams, just an incredible athlete. He was the one who actually taught me all these balance and ankle exercises, because in mixed martial arts you have to really take care of your feet and you have to be able to balance.

Your character gets a great arc to play over this, which sadly isn't too common for big action movies.
One of the things Colin always said on set was that this movie has to work without the dinosaurs, and that was something that was always top of mind. I met him in March of 2013 over Skype. He told me so much of the story — I couldn't even believe it when it was happening, like I'm not even cast in this movie yet and he's telling me so much of it, I can't believe he trusts me — and then a month later he called me and said, "I'm at the top of a mountain in Hawaii, I was thinking about you. We've all talked about you, Bryce, and when we Skyped together you felt like family. We'd like to invite you into the Jurassic World family." I mean, I said yes on the spot. But there was no script until September. He described this character to me who really goes on this journey. At first she's incredibly unlikable and by the end of the film she's heroic, and I just kept questioning whether that was even possible.

Bryce Dallas Howard stars as operations manager Claire in Jurassic World. CONTRIBUTED

Nice work if you can get it.
And then! And then Chris Pratt gets cast. Could it get any better?

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Chef Julian Clauss-Ehlers' Roasted Beets and Goat Cheese.
CONTRIBUTED

A fresh start to the summer beet wave

ROOT FOR IT

Beets are this season's star ingredient

Summer is more or less here, depending on the week. And as great as it's been to change from soups and roasts to lighter fare, most of us need something more than a bowl of lettuce to get by. Spring brought with it a whole new collage of root vegetables, especially beets, that make for an easy transition.

At the new Trattoria Bianca restaurant near Penn Station in New York City, executive chef Julian Clauss-Ehlers is serving a roasted beet and goat cheese dish that just bursts with freshness. "The creamy texture of the goat cheese complements the earthy flavours of the beets — it's a classic combination," he tells us.

Beets can be a hard sell though, with many home cooks either serving them raw or sugared and pulverized beyond recognition. But Clauss-Ehlers's recipe calls for gently baking the beetroot, which "keeps it tender and helps keep the shape," he explains.

Eat beets now, while they're in season, to get the most flavour out of the heart-health-boosting veggie, which also has potassium for your muscles and antioxidants.

EVA KIS/METRO IN NEW YORK

> **The creamy texture of the goat cheese complements the earthy flavours of the beets — it's a classic combination.**
> Executive chef Julian Clauss-Ehlers

ROASTED BEETS WITH GOAT CHEESE

Ingredients for the beets:
- 3 large red beets, peeled and sliced very thin
- zest and juice of 1 orange
- zest and juice of one lemon
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup water
- a sprig of fresh thyme

Directions: Carefully mix all ingredients, including the beets. Place everything in a baking dish, cover with aluminum foil and cook in the oven at 300 degrees until the beets are soft, about 1 to 2 hours. Remove from the oven and allow to cool.

Ingredients for the cheese:
- 8 oz. creamy goat cheese, lightly whipped
- 1 fennel bulb, finely shaved
- 1 pear, cut into fine strips
- 1/4 cup whole pistachios, lightly roasted and chopped
- Handful baby arugula
- Kosher salt
- Fresh ground pepper
- Extra virgin olive oil
- Balsamic vinegar

Directions: In a salad bowl add the arugula, fennel, half the goat cheese, half the pistachios and half the pear. Lightly season with salt, pepper, olive oil and vinegar, then lightly toss.

Spread the remaining goat cheese in the middle of four 10-inch plates. Cover the goat cheese with three slices of beet. Divide the mixed salad onto the center of each plate, then lay the sliced beet around the outside.

Top the salad with the remaining pear strips and finish with fronds of fennel, sprinkle the rest of the pistachios around the plate and drizzle the beets with a little olive oil. Serves four.

EVA KIS/METRO NEWS

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Father's Day grub he won't snub

QUICK FIX TESTOSTERONE

Boost dad's manliness with these vitamin-rich delights

WORD OF MOUTH
Theresa Albert
myfriendinfood.com

In a recent survey about gifts for Father's Day, one third of dads polled said they don't want a gift on June 21 — they just want to spend quality time with the family.

Cooking together is one way to do it, so here are the top three foods he needs to satisfy that hormone called testosterone.

These foods contain three key nutrients: zinc, protein and vitamin D to help build the critical hormone. The other items that the research points to for healthy T are a reduction of unhealthy weight and excess sugar as well as an increase in muscle-building activity. But don't pester him on Father's Day; just pass him these great guy foods:

Foods that are high in protein, zinc and vitamin D are sure-fire hits for dad this Father's Day. ISTOCK

Grass fed beef
High in protein and zinc and lower in the saturated fats that can interfere with hormone regulation. Let him build the fire (ok, light the BBQ) and grill it like the hunter he is at heart.

Shrimp
Containing vitamin D and omega 3 fats, these babies go on the grill right next to the beef and scream man food. Be sure you check the source of such shrimp, though. Marine Stewardship Council Certified (look for the MSC blue logo) is critical.

Pumpkin seeds
Loaded with Zinc and Magnesium to support his muscles that support his manliness, these green pepitas are easy to sneak in. Use them in place of croutons in your Caesar Salad and call it a good Father's Day.

Theresa is a food and health expert and nutritionist who loves to spread the word on food.

CALORIE COUNTING

Google adds the pounds

A new Google feature launched Tuesday displays the nutritional values of popular fast foods as part of a web search.

To check exactly how much fat or protein is in a Big Mac or a Whopper simply type "Big Mac Calories" and Google will display the answer – 563 calories for one burger – alongside a full nutritional breakdown of the item in question. Or, if accessing search via Google Now on an Android device, just ask the question for the same results.

The feature isn't limited to McDonald's and Burger King; Google says that the menus for many "popular restaurant chains" are also included. Nor is a search limited to a single item. A whole menu can be viewed so that a meal can be chosen based on its nutritional content.

Earlier this year, Google quietly began floating a new machine vision-based app called Im2Calories, which estimates the number of calories in a meal immediately after a user photographs it. AFP

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Ingredients for a salad made with warm broccolini and halloumi are shown with the new cookbook Salmagundi: A Celebration of Salads from around the World. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Global ways to salad-eating days

SUMMER EATING

British blogger gathers best of world's salads

Salmagundi is a grand, plated, multi-ingredient salad from 17th century England.

A new British cookbook by the same name includes an ancient recipe for it with lettuce, chicken, anchovies, lemon, eggs, onions, scalded grapes and edible flowers.

The rest of the book skips from Indonesian gado gado and Turkish bulgur and tomato salad, to patacas bravas salad from Spain and the globally trendy quinoa with garlicky eggplants.

The book: Salmagundi: A Celebration of Salads from around the World by Sally Butcher offers 150 "archaic, traditional, staple and funky" recipes. Fourteen chapters include herbs and leaves, cheese, meat and salads for desserts.

The author: Sally Butcher runs a Persian food store called Persepolis in London with her Persian husband Jamshid. She has written several cookbooks, and blogs at Veggiestan.com.

The recipe: Butcher eats this once or twice a week since shopkeepers like her eat a lot of salads that start out as hot meals and cool to room temperature as they tend to customers.

Warm Halloumi + Broccolini Salad

Trendy halloumi, with its squeaky texture and high melting point, shines in this quick lunch or dinner salad. Broccolini is a green vegetable that looks like broccoli, but with longer, thinner stalks and smaller florets. It's in most supermarkets, but use broccoli if you can't find it. Adapted. Makes 1 serving.

Ingredients:

- Splash olive oil
- 1/2 bunch broccolini, trimmed
- 3 slices halloumi, cubed (about 3 oz./85 g)
- 5 cherry or grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) balsamic vinegar
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) mint sauce
- Freshly ground black pepper

Directions:

1. In medium, non-stick skillet, heat oil over medium-high. Add broccolini. Cook 3 minutes, turning, until lightly browned or charred. Add halloumi. Cook 30 seconds per side until lightly browned, reducing heat if needed. Add tomatoes. Cook 1 minute.

2. Remove pan from heat. Stir in vinegar and mint sauce. Season with pepper. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

OLD-SCHOOL APERITIF

England in its summer cups

LIQUID ASSETS

Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy

While England may be the brunt of jokes when it comes to its cuisine, as a nation it sure knows how to get its drink on.

World famous for its beer and much less so for its wine (yes, it makes wine), its classic aperitifs are making a comeback as home bartenders look for simple-to-make cocktails to help celebrate the coming of the summer season.

You can't get more old school than Pimm's No. 1 Cup ($22.59 - $27.98).

Invented by James Pimm in 1823, it's a gin-based spirit made with a secret blend of herbs, fruit juices and liqueurs.

Originally served in a small mug (Pimm called it a No. 1 Cup), it became the quintessential English drink thanks, in no small part, to its colour resemblance to tea.

The Brits like it stirred with sparkling lemonade (often replaced with ginger ale in North America) over ice and is typically garnished with a wedge of orange (I like it with a thin slice of cucumber) and a sprig of mint.

Mixology doesn't get any easier or refreshing.

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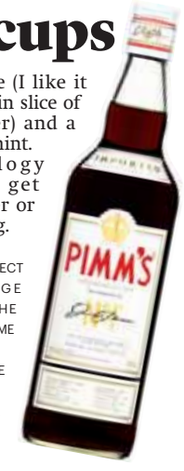

Can't stand the heat? Get out of the kitchen

PIZZA OVENS

Old-fashioned 'technology' is the newest cooking trend

Backyard pizza ovens are hot, hot, hot.

Besides being designed to reach "optimal" cooking temperatures upward of 425 to 540 C (800 to 1,000 F), demand has grown "exponentially" since Allan Ham started selling the ovens five years ago.

Propane and gas-fuelled variations on traditional ovens are being carried by major retailers.

Some homebuilders are including this old-fashioned, wood-fired "technology" in high-end, indoor kitchens, says Ham, owner of Outdoor Pizza Ovens in Shanty Bay, Ont., near Barrie.

Although the construction materials are better today, the classic ovens have changed little in centuries — a stone hearth covered by a stone-lined dome with a chimney. There is insulation behind the stone and the outside can be stucco, brick or mosaic tile.

But the traditional wood-fired ovens, with cooking surfaces from 12 to 44 inches or larger, don't come cheap. Even medium-sized ready-made units start at more than $2,000 and the largest, most elaborate ones can be closer to $9,000 (shipping and stands not necessarily included).

Ham sees potential in a Finnish-inspired product that's not much bigger than a suitcase, sits on a picnic table, uses wood pellets as fuel and heats to more than 425 C (800 F) in 10 minutes. It costs $400.

"But here's the thing. If you buy a little one, you're going to wish you had a bigger one," says Ham, who says the most popular size cooking surface with his customers is 36 inches.

About half his buyers buy kits to build their own, but even those run from about $1,200 to $5,000.

So why invest thousands of dollars to return to a form of cooking that's been around for millennia?

"I think we're all drawn to fire," Ham says. "It's in our DNA. The oven door's open all the time and you see the fire and you see your food cooking right before your eyes. ...

"And ultimately it's the taste of the food" and the wood smoke that gives even familiar dishes a new flavour.

There are two basic kinds of wood-fired outdoor ovens.

In a "black oven," the wood burns on the stone floor. Depending on the oven's size and quality of the wood, it takes 45 to 90 minutes to heat the oven to optimal temperature, Ham says.

Although often called "pizza ovens," black ovens can be used as smokers and to bake, roast and grill. You can set a grate inside and cook over the coals as you would on a barbecue or brush the wood and ash aside and cook directly on the hearth.

Either way, the extreme temperatures radiating from all sides of the dome make cooking very fast — about 90 seconds for a pizza, for example.

It retains the heat so well that an oven heated to optimal temperature in the evening will still have an internal temperature of 180 or 200 C (350 to 400 F) the next morning — enough to bake bread.

In "white ovens," the fire chamber is below the oven. You don't have to clean up wood or ash, but "they don't hold their heat into the next day or you can't grill in that oven. It's just basically an oven or a smoker."

Learning to use the ovens takes practice; food can burn quickly. "But once you cook a few dishes, you start to understand how these things cook. And because it cooks on all sides, it's amazing," Ham says.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THINGS TO KNOW

- Outdoor pizza ovens must meet CSA/UL certification standards, but care is required for all appliances.
- The recommended fuel is dry hardwood.
- Cast-iron or clay pots and skillets are best in high temperatures.
- Required maintenance is very low because there are no moving parts (except maybe doors) on many pizza ovens.

Two wood-fired pizza ovens from Forno Bravo of California are good examples of the growing backyard pizza oven trend. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IMPROMPTU DUET GOES VIRAL

Sheeran surprises in Edmonton

A budding young pop singer says she got the surprise of her life from one of the world's biggest pop stars while performing at one of the world's largest shopping malls this weekend.

Sydney Bourbeau was halfway through covering Ed Sheeran's Thinking Out Loud at West Edmonton Mall on Sunday when Sheeran himself, who just happened to be at a nearby music store, hopped on stage and helped her.

The 13-year-old Grade 8 student says she initially thought Sheeran, who was wearing thick-rimmed glasses and a plaid shirt, was a stage hand coming to help her with the microphone stand.

With the crowd roaring its approval and people scrambling for their phones, Sheeran and Sydney shared the mic for a verse and a chorus.

Then, giving Bourbeau a hug, the British megastar was gone as quickly as he arrived, allowing the youngster to finish up.

Sydney was performing at the mall as part of a concert to mark the end of a fundraiser for the Humane Society hosted by her music school Resonate.

She says Sheeran's manager got in touch with her later that day to offer her tickets to Sheeran's show in Edmonton that night.

He sent her a message again during the show asking her if she wanted to come backstage, but she didn't see that one until after she was already home.

Still, she says the encounter, which has been posted by a handful of different people on social media, made her pretty popular at school on Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **"It was nuts.... Like everyone at school knew and they were all like, 'Oh my goodness, you are famous!'**
>
> 13-year-old mall singer Sydney Bourbeau

FROM AMERICAN IDOL TO QUEEN

Lambert's fans span generations

When it comes to spanning the generational divide among music fans, Adam Lambert may have figured it all out: write catchy, hook-laden pop and dance tracks for the kids and sell pricey concert tickets for one of the all-time classic rock bands to their parents.

Fresh off a wildly successful world tour fronting Queen, Lambert is back with his third studio album, The Original High, released Tuesday. Its mix of dance club, pop and emotional ballads couldn't be more different from the music he's been performing for the past two years.

"I have a lot of different people that listen to my music, and it's important to me to kind of bring as many people together as I can," Lambert, 33, said in a recent interview. "Now, six years into this part of my career, I think I know myself better. I think I have a stronger idea of my artistic identity and who my fans are."

"Working with Queen was definitely a balancing act of trying to honour the original recordings as much as I possibly could, while still injecting myself into them," he added. "With this project, it's my name on the project."

Lambert burst onto the scene in 2009, auditioning for American Idol with an a cappella version of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody. He made it to the finale, finishing second to Kris Allen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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St. Vincent tames Cara's wild ways

#STCARA

Busy model is ready to settle down with singer: Source

Emily Laurence
Metro | New York City

Cara Delevingne and Annie Clark, seen here in Cannes last month, are said to be going strong. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Model Cara Delevingne has famously dated Harry Styles and Michelle Rodriguez, but it's none other than St. Vincent singer Annie Clark who has turned the upcoming Paper Towns actress from party girl to domestic partner.

A source close to the couple allegedly tells Closer magazine that the couple are "so in love" with each other and are living together in easy domestic bliss.

"They both say they feel like they've found The One," the source says. "When Annie asked Cara to move in together, she said yes immediately. They feel real settled at the moment."

Delevingne is at a pivotal moment in her modelling and acting career.

Fresh from jointly promoting Burberry, the British model teamed up again with Kate Moss to lead Mango's fall/winter 2015 ad campaign.

Called #somethingincommon, the campaign, which will be Moss's third for the fashion brand, was shot in Toronto.

She also stars in the upcoming Paper Towns, showing off her acting chops and a decent American accent in the film based on the novel by John Green (who also penned The Fault in Our Stars).

But even Delevingne's busy schedule can't keep her apart from Clark. The source goes on to say that neither one of them hesitates to jump on a plane, even if it's just for a few hours of time together. Team #StCara for the win!

GOSSIP BRIEFS

Zoe Saldana keeps kids under wraps

New mom Zoe Saldana is going to great lengths to respect the privacy of her six-month-old twin sons. That means you won't be seeing any photos with their faces any time soon.

"I just don't want 16 years from now to get, 'You are so disrespectful. You invaded, you exposed me and I wasn't ready,'" Saldana tells E! News. "Right now they're not in the position to speak for themselves or make a decision. I don't want to make it for them."

Zoe Saldana

Anna Faris jealous of a dinosaur

Anna Faris is trying to be an understanding wife to Chris Pratt, but she just doesn't like the way a certain Jurassic World co-star has been looking at him. In the blockbuster, Pratt's character has a close bond with one velociraptor in particular named Blue, and Faris took to Twitter to voice her concerns.

"Honey, what if I'm the littlest jealous of Blue?" she wrote. "I mean, she's hot, smart and you clearly adore her. Thoughts?"

Pratt himself responded, hoping to put his wife's fears to rest. "She's a little cold-blooded for my taste," he tweeted. "But seriously, nothing happened."

Aaron Paul punks Breaking Bad fans

Breaking Bad star Aaron Paul apparently wants to use his fame and social media moxie for evil, not good. He recently teased fans in a Periscope video about a Breaking Bad spin-off chronicling the exploits of his character, Jesse Pinkman, after leaving Albuquerque. "Listen, there's some super top-secret news that I am so proud to tell all of you. It's very exciting," he offered.

Except that it was all a joke. And fans got so worked up after it that he had to tweet an apology: "Sorry for the joke, everybody." Not cool, Pinkman. Not cool.

NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

metro DRIVE
Your essential daily news

BMW is pressing ahead with its fuel-cell car, which could go on sale by 2020

Features pack Lexus NX 300h

ROAD TESTED

JIL McINTOSH/FOR METRO

REVIEW

Compact SUV could be more fun to drive, though

Jil McIntosh
For Metro

Toyota was the first automaker to launch a hybrid, and over the years, it has used that technology in a number of Toyota and Lexus vehicles. Many of them are very good, but it falls a little short in the Lexus NX 300h, its all-new compact SUV.

You can get the NX with a conventional turbocharged 2.0-litre engine, while the 300h uses a 2.5-litre four-cylinder with electric motor and storage battery. The system automatically runs on gasoline, electricity, or a combination of the two, depending on what's needed. The system recharges the battery itself, and you don't plug it in.

The regular NX 200t starts at $41,450 and has five trim levels, but the 300h hybrid comes in a single, fully loaded, all-wheel-drive model for $59,450.

The styling is edgy, and Lexus says it's the company's first hybrid with a kick-down function when you want a burst of acceleration. But while I went in expecting at least some sporty performance because of that, I was disappointed. The steering is mushy, the brakes are grabby, and the engine drones. The only real payoff was an average of 6.6 L/100 kilometres in combined driving, which turned out to be better than the published numbers, and on regular-grade fuel.

> **Steering is mushy, the brakes are grabby**

The interior is all quality materials and stitched leather, but I had some issues here, as well. You use a touchscreen on the centre console to operate the infotainment system, but it's too sensitive and I had trouble hitting the icons, especially on uneven roads. There's a storage cover behind the wrist support that's topped with a removable cover. Flip it over, and it's a mirror. It's a nice idea in theory, I suppose, but I'm just seeing something that's easily broken or lost.

The NX 300h does include a lot of features, such as adaptive cruise control, lane departure alert, power tilt and telescopic wheel, power-folding rear seats, ventilated front seats, head-up display, and wireless phone charging. But for the money, I expected something that would be a lot more fun to drive. The company may be known for hybrids, but even the leaders don't always get it right.

THE CHECKLIST | 2015 LEXUS NX 300H

THE BASICS

Type. Four-door, five-passenger compact hybrid SUV.
Engine (hp). 2.5-litre I4 with hybrid system (154 gas only, 194 gas/electric).
Transmission. Continuously variable (CVT).
Price. $59,450 (as tested), plus destination.

JIL McINTOSH/FOR METRO

POINTS

- The NX 300h slots under the company's larger and deservedly popular RX hybrid. Lexus makes a total of six different hybrid cars and SUVs.
- The non-hybrid NX 200t starts at $41,450 and goes to $53,550.

COOL FEATURES

- Heated and ventilated front seats.
- Power-folding rear seats.
- Heated steering wheel.
- Head-up display.
- Touchpad infotainment control.
- Adaptive cruise control.
- Power liftgate.

MARKET POSITION

- The compact hybrid SUV segment is a very slim one, and the NX 300h really has only Infiniti as a competitor. There aren't many hybrid SUVs overall, but most are larger and pricier than the NX.

THE COMPETITION

Infiniti QX60 Hybrid
Base price: $54,900

Lexus RX 450h
Base price: $63,250

Porsche Cayenne S E-Hybrid
Base price: $87,700

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Avalon looks like a solid buy

USED VEHICLE

Electronic issues may dog 2004-2012 models

The Toyota Avalon takes a place above the Camry in the automaker's product lineup as a big, sophisticated luxury cruiser with a relatively simple goal: delivering an affordable taste of the motoring high life to its owners.

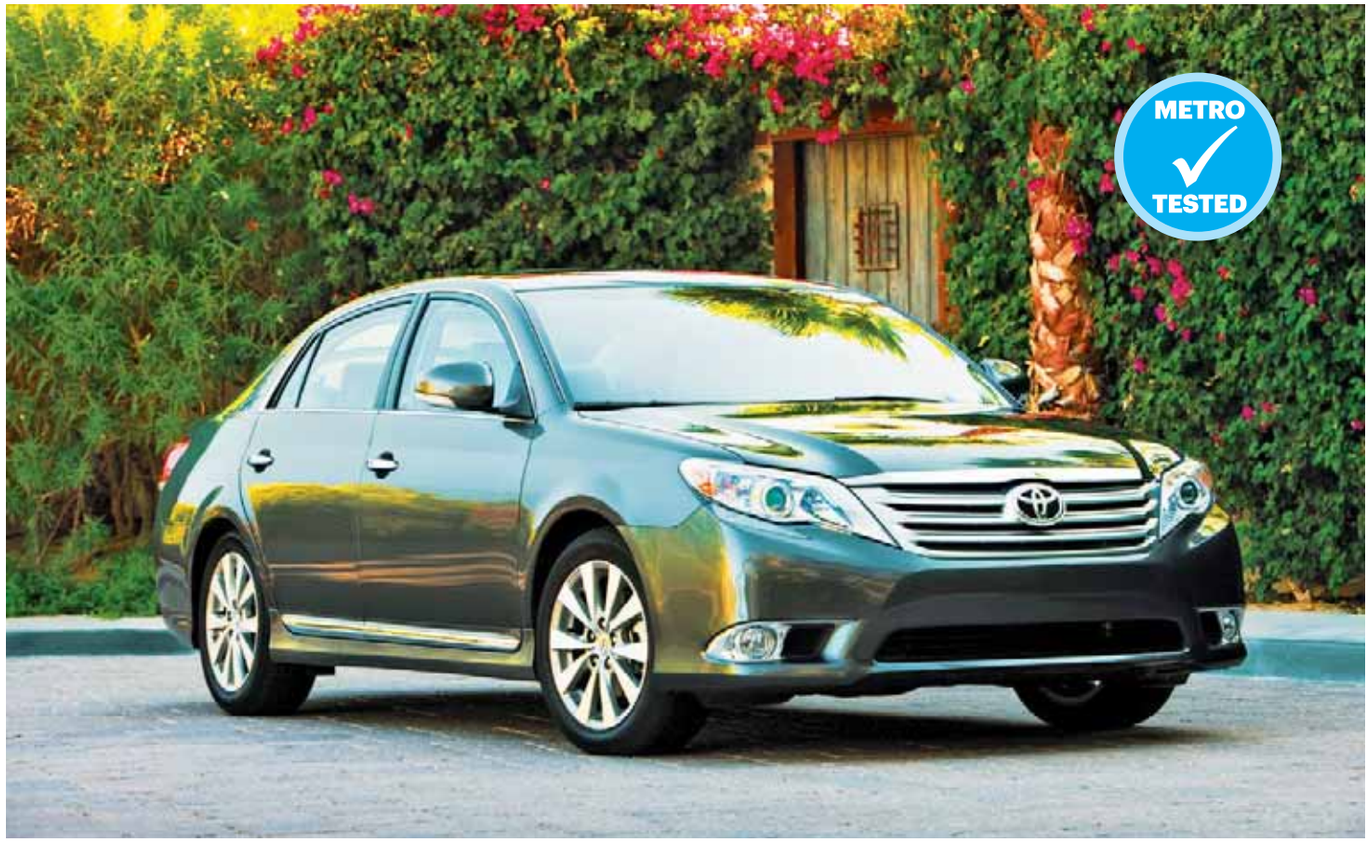
Avalon seems, largely, to have impressed its owners with reliable and trouble-free operation, though a few checks of any used unit you're contemplating should be considered mandatory.

Some owners reported frustrating and hard-to-track issues with some of Avalon's interior electronics. Extra attention is advised for the navigation system, climate controls, all cluster lights and the audio system.

Pair your Bluetooth phone, set a navigation destination, try all of the steering-wheel mounted controls and fiddle with the climate system for a few minutes, to be safe.

Shoppers of 2004 to 2012 models should also pay attention to Avalon's front end, noting any pulling or vibrating through the steering wheel that could indicate an alignment issue. Note any abnormal tire wear that's heavier on the inside or outside of the treads, which could indicate an alignment problem, too.

Listen for popping or clunking noises from the front and rear of the vehicle as you travel over rough roads at a variety of speeds. Unwelcome sounds could indicate a worn-out or damaged suspension component that will require some attention. JUSTIN PRITCHARD



Features

In the used marketplace, the Avalon will offer up hardware such as a CD changer, JBL audio system, self-dimming rear-view mirror, a sunroof, heated leather seats, in-cabin air filtration, navigation, Bluetooth and automatic climate control. Expect plenty of room to cruise in comfort with four or five adults.

Engines

All models received a 3.5-litre V6, making between 268 and 280 depending on the year. A five or six-speed automatic transmission was standard.

What owners like

Owners on the internet tend to rave about the roominess, comfort, luxury and quality imparted by the Avalon driving experience. The up-level audio system is said to deliver a noteworthy listening experience, too.

What owners dislike

Numerous complaints surfaced in online Avalon owner circles about the navigation system, occasional clumsy or harsh gear shifting, and bland cabin and body styling.

The verdict

Most Avalon owners have enjoyed largely trouble-free operation and plenty of confident kilometres from their machines. If the used unit you're considering doesn't exhibit any potential issues upon inspection by a trained mechanic, purchase confidently and expect a laid-back driving experience well suited to long-haul travels.

IN BRIEF

How much for that bike? Honda has officially unveiled the RC213V-S bike, which is literally a road-legal version of the RC213V — that's the bike that won the 2013 and 2014 MotoGP World Championships. However, surprise surrounding the new bike is due to the asking price — about $260,000 CDN. That price includes an optional racing kit for improving pretty much everything, but is only for on-track use. AFP

PARTNERSHIP

Daimler, Bosh tackle self-parking car service

Mercedes-Benz parent company Daimler is set to begin working in partnership with Bosch on the development of a new smartphone app-controlled system that would enable a car to drop off its driver and passengers then autonomously locate and manoeuvre into an available parking bay.

The system, which will require cameras and sensors to be installed in car parks, will initially be integrated into car2go's vehicle fleet.

Car2go is Daimler's car-sharing service and one that relies heavily on smartphone apps and connectivity as a means of allowing customers to book and pay for car use — making it the perfect test environment.

"Our customers are always the centre of attention and all of our actions are oriented towards them. In future the car will even go to them," explains Prof. Dr. Thomas Weber, member of the board, Daimler AG, responsible for group research and Mercedes-Benz cars development.

"In collaboration with our partner Bosch and our mobility service car2go, we are developing and testing an infrastructure-based solution for a fully automated valet parking service," Weber says.

Technology involved

Existing park assist, intelligent cruise control and autonomous breaking technologies available on a host of premium sedans, the Mercedes-Benz S Class included, are sufficient when working in unison for a car to be able to manoeuvre itself into a garage, a road-side space or into a parking bay in an outdoor parking lot without an accident.

However, identifying an empty space within an indoor, multi-storey parking lot, navigating to it and driving into it isn't possible unless the parking structure itself is as connected as the cars within it. This is where Bosch comes in.

When the partnership is officially ratified on July 8, Bosch will be charged with developing the intelligent infrastructure components, such as cameras and parking bay sensors, needed so cars can see the layout of a car park as clearly as a human driver.

"Fully automated parking will be ready for mass-production before fully automated driving," says Dr. Dirk Hoheisel, member of the board of management, Bosch.

"Low driving speeds and the information from the car park infrastructure enable a fast implementation," says Hoheisel. AFP

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HONDA

Limited time weekly lease offers available through Honda Financial Services Inc. (HFS), to qualified retail customers on approved credit. Weekly payments include freight and PDI (ranges from $1,495 to $1,695 depending on model), EHF tires ($28.45), EHF filters (ranges from $1.00 to $1.55 depending on model), A/C charge ($100 except Civic DX models), and OMVIC fee ($5). Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. ΩRepresentative weekly lease example: 2015 Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2FEX) // 2015 CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3FES) // 2015 Accord LX Sedan 6MT (Model CR2E3FE) on a 60 month term with 260 weekly payments at 0.99% // 1.99% // 0.99% lease APR. Weekly payment is $38.96 // $69.90 // $61.95 with $0 down or equivalent trade-in and $1,100 // $400 // $550 total lease incentive included. Down payments, $0 security deposit and first weekly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $10,130.11 // $18,173.41 // $16,107.41. 120,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. PPSA lien registration fee of $45.93 and lien registering agent's fee of $5.65, due at time of delivery are not included. *$750 Victory Lap Lease Bonus offer will be deducted from the negotiated price after taxes and can be combined with advertised lease rates and applies to retail customer lease agreements for new 2015 Honda Civic models (except Civic DX and Civic Hybrid) concluded between June 2nd, 2015 and June 30th, 2015 at participating Ontario Honda Dealers. For all offers: license, insurance, other taxes (including HST) and excess wear and tear are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Colour availability may vary by dealer. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. **Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2014. ^Estimated fuel economy based on Government of Canada's new 5-cycle testing method. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors – use for comparison only. For more information on 5-cycle testing, visit http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/efficiency/transportation/cars-light-trucks/buying/7491.

Aston Martin taps emerging markets

CONCEPT CARS

DBX blends luxury, height

Luxury sportscar maker Aston Martin is combining the body of a grand touring automobile with the taller ride height and all wheel-drive system of an off-roader with its DBX concept car (right). The car's design addresses buyers in emerging markets, such as China and Russia, where poor road conditions make living with a low-slung sports car more of an ordeal than a pleasurable experience.

THE GREEN ANGLE

Metro's weekly picks for the latest in environmental news

E-CARS

3D printer helps make prototype

StreetScooter has unveiled its largely 3D-printed C16 electric prototype (right). Printed parts of the car include its front and back panels, door panels, bumpers, side skirts, wheel arches, lamp covers and some small interior parts. Though many parts of the production C16 will be built using more conventional methods, 3D printing allowed the prototype to be built inexpensively, and within one year.

TEXT AND IMAGES BY WHEELBASE MEDIA

ENERGY

Fossil fuel use to stop: Musk

Tesla founder and CEO Elon Musk said he thinks the time will come when energy collection and storage for home, business and industrial use replaces the burning of fossil fuels. The process will take "a long time," though, and how it tracks between now and then "is difficult to predict." New battery technology to power electric cars, such as the Chevrolet Volt battery (left), could also mean new ways to power homes without fossil fuels. Musk also acknowledged energy storage might become "a better market than automotive," but that, too, will take time to determine. "It would be good to get a couple of quarters of experience" with storage-pack demand and production. After that time, "our degree of uncertainty will diminish significantly — it's super-speculative at this point."

IN BRIEF

Chargemaster reaches 1-million milestone

• Electric-vehicle recharger developer Chargemaster has recorded 1 million vehicle charges using its British network of charging points, providing about 9.5 million kilowatt hours of electricity since September 2012. The provider of EV charging infrastructure recently installed its 10,000th public and commercial charging point.

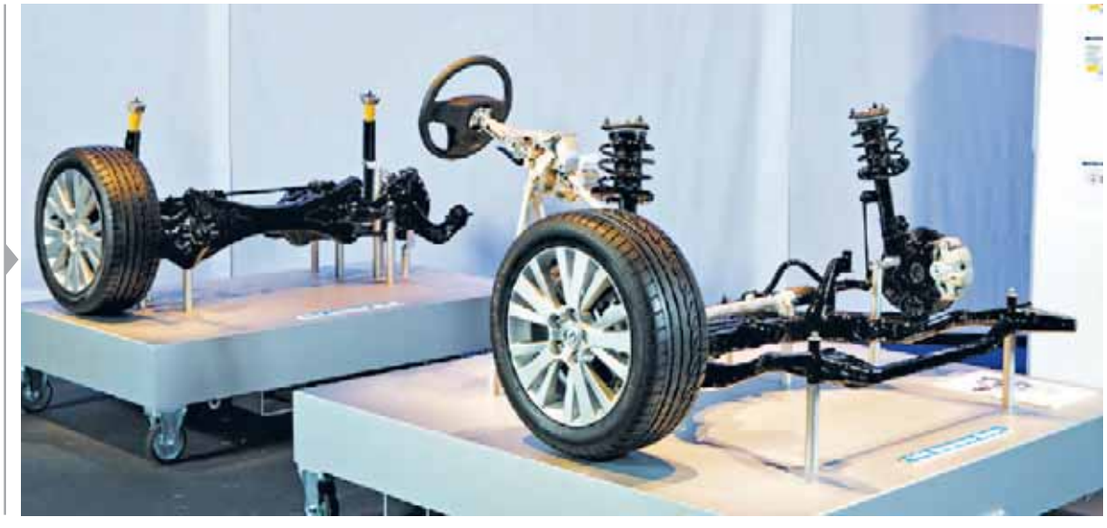
Plastic helps make engine cylinder blocks

• Industrial manufacturer Fraunhofer is developing ways to build engine cylinder blocks composed partly of plastic. The company has created a one-cylinder experimental engine using fibre-reinforced plastic that weighs about 20 per cent less than the equivalent aluminum component, "and costs the same."

PARTNERSHIP

Mazda, Toyota to boost tech

Improving existing environmental and safety technologies and developing new ones are the goals of a new joint collaboration between Mazda and Toyota. Announcing the agreement, Toyota president Akio Toyoda paid tribute to Mazda's SkyActiv lightweight-vehicle technologies and efficient designs (right), saying Mazda has proven "it always thinks of what is coming next," while staying true to its car-making roots. Mazda president Masamichi Kogai professed "tremendous respect" for Toyota's pursuit of ever-better cars through innovation.



RECYCLING

Used battery packs power Yellowstone buffalo ranch

Twenty-eight used Toyota Camry Hybrid battery packs recovered from Toyota dealers are now storing energy generated from solar panels at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch field campus within Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. Noting that battery energy storage capacity diminishes over time — to the point where packs are no longer suitable for use in cars — they often still have enough usable capacity for other uses, reported the Green Car Reports Web site.

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The Porsche 919 Hybrid zips around at Le Mans. CONTRIBUTED

Porsche science on show at Le Mans

EVENT

Sports car race ignites excitement, fascination

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz

As science experiments go, the 24 Hours of Le Mans beats the heck out of making a *papier mâché* volcano erupt by combining baking soda, vinegar and dishwashing soap.

The world's most storied sports car race is much better at developing future technologies, and much more enjoyable from a spectator standpoint.

The 2015 edition of the race was run last weekend near Le Mans, France, and the science on display was particularly awesome and intriguing, as it was only the second year for regulations stipulating that race cars in the top category of LMP1 utilize at least one hybrid system, and are also limited in the amount of energy they may use in each lap.

This focus on energy efficiency brought Porsche back to fight in that top category and it did "real good" in 2015; the three-car factory team of 919 hybrid race cars finished first, second and fifth. It was the first outright win for Porsche since 1998, and stopped Audi's consecutive winning streak at five.

Let's take a quick look at Porsche's novel — and winning — hybrid technology, some of which is already on Porsche's production vehicles, and some of which will come on-stream later ...

• Porsche says the 919's 500-hp 2-litre turbocharged V-4 engine is a trailblazer in terms of fuel injection and internal friction.

• Similar to the road-going 918 Spyder, the 919 employs a generator at the front axle to convert kinetic energy into electricity during braking. The energy is stored in a very high tech lithium-ion battery, and released to an electric motor driving the front axle, in effect making the 919 an AWD vehicle under acceleration. The electrical energy is equivalent to 400 extra horsepower.

• The 919 also uses a second recovery system. A turbine generator unit in the exhaust system works in parallel with the turbocharger, to convert energy from the exhaust-gas stream into electricity. So the 919 recovers energy not only when braking, but also when accelerating.

• Audi and Nissan use flywheel devices, and Toyota uses an electrochemical supercapacitor device, to store the electricity generated by their respective race-car energy recovery systems. Those two systems are generally better at absorbing and releasing electricity quickly, and are lighter, but Porsche felt its new-design lithium-ion battery, which features individually cooled cells, could store more electricity, and so was better suited for the demands of Le Mans, and for future hybrid sports cars.

• Next year the science experiments will continue, and we'll have a bit of Canadian technology to cheer on. Ford announced it would be going endurance racing next year with its all-new Ford GT supercar in the LM GTE category.

Like the production Ford GT, the race GT will have its carbon-fibre chassis built at Multimatic Motorsports, in Markham, Ont., and will showcase the aerodynamic and lightweight possibilities of this new vehicle material.

Science that's fast, fun and loud? Now that's good science.

The Ford GT supercar. CONTRIBUTED

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Starting From Price for 2015 Ram 1500 Sport with Performance Hood shown: $39,765.§

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Starting From Price for 2015 Dodge Journey Crossroad shown: $31,785.§

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Special Delivery: F-Type R

What test car is Garry bringing us this week? We literally have no clue what he's bringing us until it lands in our driveway, but who are we to doubt Garry Sowerby, who has a bazillion Guinness records for around-the-world driving? That's a bazillion more than we have, after all. Come along for the ride as we deliver real-life, no-glam reviews.

JEFF MELNYCHUK WHEELBASE MEDIA

Rather than Garry bringing his Special Delivery vehicle of the week to me, I'm being delivered to the car in Windsor, Ont.

Garry thinks I put the "special" in special delivery. Few would disagree with him, including Jason Stein, publisher of Automotive News, which is located across the water from Windsor in Detroit, Mich. Jason lives in Windsor and commutes to work in the U.S. of A.

I happen to be in town for our semi-regular get-together and the call comes into the posh home-office bunker I've set up in the guest room over the garage at his house.

Jason from work in Detroit: "OK, I can bring home a Camaro something or a Jaguar F-Type something. Which do you want?"

Me: "Jag something. And maybe some McNuggets. Thanks."

Lower ride height on the Jaguar F-Type R, please. WHEELBASE MEDIA PHOTOS

The gear shift.

Noise, noise, noise!

A couple of hours later, around 6 p.m., there's a hellish racket in the driveway, like muffled fireworks. Jason revs up the engine. "BLLABABAALAAAAaaaaablablaaaa." It sounds like a hollow washing machine full of bowling balls.

The Jaguar F-Type "something" turns out to be the top-of-the-line 550-horsepower F-Type R. There are a couple of less-powerful versions, but who really cares about those when there's a supercharged 5.0-litre V8 right outside that's ready for a good beating.

The F-Type caused quite a stir when it went into production for the 2013 model year, mostly over at Jaguar. The F-Type made the higher-priced XK coupe/convertible look like an 8-track player, almost overnight. No one cried when Jag promptly quit the XK, mostly because the F-Type was so mesmerizing. And ... maybe because no one cared about all that much about the XK, anyway.

Check out those handles.

The view from the back.

Is that you making all that racket?

Up close and personal with the wheel.

Driving the Jag

The F-Type feels ridiculously quick, in testing the grip of the all-wheel-drive system. That's right, all-wheel-drive. The pedal is touchy. The power is all down low, though, and it wanes just a bit as the revs climb. A just-OK zero-to-100 km/h time of 4.1 seconds proves this. The standard eight-speed transmission is quick to react to paddle shifts. I'm not missing a manual trans one bit.

Still, the sensation is that the F-Type is a supercar and perhaps it is for a base price of $117,500 (the base 340-horsepower F-Type S starts at $77,500) and for its flush-mount door handles that pop out when you want to climb in, and for the all-wheel-drive, and for the optional carbon-ceramic brakes. And, of course, for the impossibly tiny space under the rear hatch. You can always tell a supercar if the trunk space is secondary to absolutely everything else. Based on that, the F-Type R is a SUPERCAR.

LET'S TALK

WOW: Does everything that's impractical, correctly; if someone steals this car, you can track it by sound or seismic waves; no manual trans? Who cares.

HMM: Shifter takes getting used to. Still can't find reverse; needs a lower stance and bigger wheels; should be quicker to 100 km/h than 4.1 seconds; there's better "value" out there, but that doesn't matter, just look at it.

Convertible conundrum

It's worse for the convertible models, because there's no hatch and the top mechanism has to be stored below deck.

I'm a coupe man, so this particular F-Type would be my ride, anyway. It's faster and much quicker than it needs to be, it's prettier than a prom date and it's louder and more offensive than a bar fight.

Yup, it's perfect.

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SR AT model shown▲

1.8 SL model shown▲

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3.5 SL model shown▲

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(collectively, "NCF") and refers to the first two (2) monthly lease payments or first two (2) monthly finance payments. A customer's first two monthly payments (inclusive all taxes) will be waived, up to a maximum of $225/$250/$375/$400/$375/$400/$600 per month tax inclusive. After two months, the customer will be required to make all remaining regularly scheduled payments over the remaining term of the contract. Customers must be approved to lease or finance through NCF. Cash purchase buyers or buyers who finance outside of Nissan Finance are also not eligible for this choice. [3]No charge extended warranty is valid for up to 60 months or 100,000 km (whichever occurs first) from the warranty start date and zero (0) kilometers. Some conditions/limitations apply. The no charge extended warranty is the Nissan Added Security Plan ("ASP") and is administered by Nissan Canada Extended Services Inc. ("NCESI"). In all provinces NCESI is the obligor. This offer includes the Gold level of coverage. Retail value of ASP is based on MSRP $1,200/$1,400/$1,500/$1,500/$1,700/$1,700/$2,000 for a new 2015 Micra®(excluding S trim)/Versa Note/Sentra/Altima Sedan/Juke®/Rogue/Pathfinder. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ≠Representative monthly lease offer based on any new 2015 Sentra 1.8 S M6 (C4LG55 AA00). 0%/0% lease APR for a 60 month term equals monthly payments of $158 with $0 down payment, and $0 security deposit. First monthly payment, down payment and $0 security deposit are due at lease inception. Prices and payments include freight and fees. Lease based on a maximum of 20,000 km/year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $9,336. $1,000 My Choice Bonus Cash included in advertised offer. Conditions apply. †Representative finance offer based on any new 2015 Altima 3.5 SL CVT (T4SG15 NV00). 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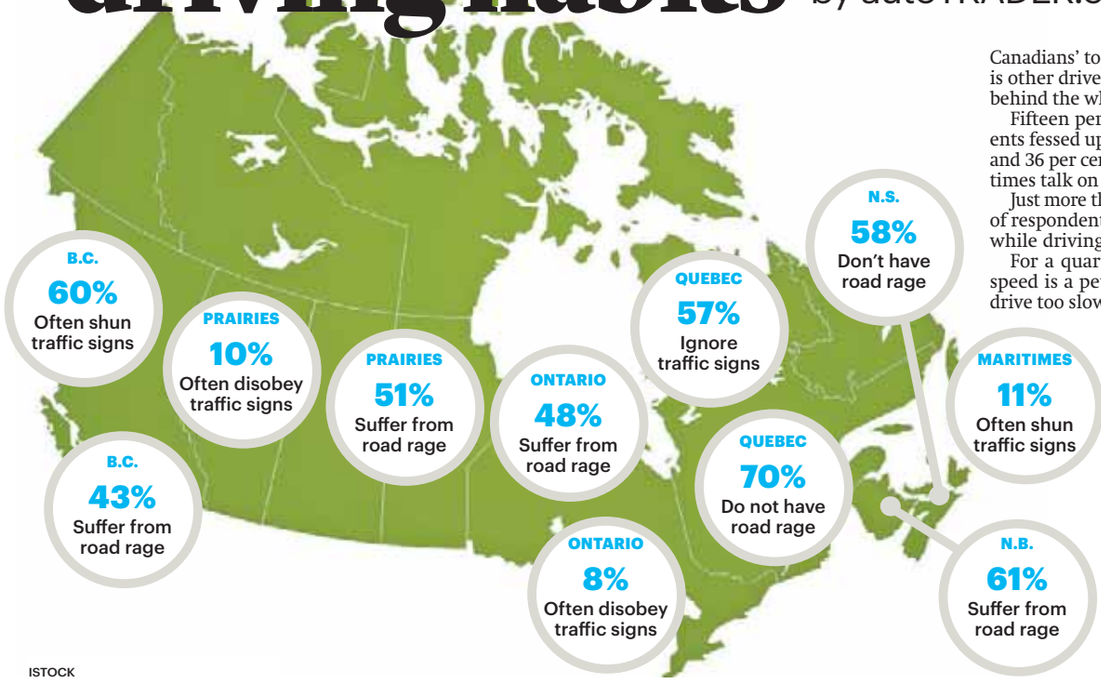
Conditions apply. ▲Models shown $18,435/$26,099/$35,977 Selling price for a new 2015 Micra® 1.6 SR 4 AT (S5SG75 AE00)/2015 Sentra 1.8 SL (C4TG15 AA00)/2015 Altima 3.5 SL CVT (T4SG15 NV00). **/•/▲Freight and PDE charges ($1,567/$1,567/$1,695) air-conditioning levy ($100) where applicable, applicable fees (all which may vary by region), manufacturer's rebate and dealer participation where applicable are included. License, registration, insurance and applicable taxes are extra. Lease offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers except stackable trading dollars. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. ††The Nissan Loyalty Offer ("Offer") is available only to eligible customers who (as of Feb, 1, 2015) lease/leased, finance/financed or own/owned a 2009 or newer Nissan brand vehicle (an "Existing Vehicle"). Eligibility for the Offer will be determined by Nissan Canada Inc. ("NCI") in its sole discretion. Proof of current or previous ownership/lease/finance contract will be required. Offer is not transferrable or assignable, except to a co-owner/co-leasee of the Existing Vehicle who resides within the same household as the intended recipient of the Offer. If the eligible customer elects to lease or finance a new and previously unregistered Nissan brand vehicle (excluding NV, Fleet and daily rentals) (an "Eligible New Vehicle") through NCI and Nissan Canada Financial Services Inc. (collectively "NCF"), then he/she will receive a specified amount of stackable loyalty dollars ("Loyalty Dollars"), as follows: (i) Micra/Versa/Sentra ($500); (ii) Juke/Altima/Rogue ($600); (iii) Frontier/Xterra/Leaf/Murano/Pathfinder ($800); and (iv) Maxima/Z/Titan, Armada/GT-R ($1000). Loyalty Dollars will be applied before taxes which means they are inclusive of all applicable taxes. Alternatively, if the eligible customer elects to purchase or lease/finance an Eligible New Vehicle (excluding GT-R and Leaf) other than through NCF, then he/she will receive a three-year/48,000 kilometers (whichever comes first) Oil Change and Tire Rotation Plan which consists of a maximum of 6 service visits, each consisting of 1 oil change (using conventional 5W30 motor oil) and 1 tire rotation. For complete details on the Oil Change and Tire Rotation Plan, ask your dealer. Offer has no cash redemption value and can be combined with other offers. Offer valid on Eligible New Vehicles purchased/leased/financed and delivered between June 2 – June 30, 2015. For more information see IIHS.org. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. Offers subject to change, continuation or cancellation without notice. Offers have no cash alternative value. See your participating Nissan retailer for complete details. ©2015 Nissan Canada Inc. Nissan Financial Services Inc. is a division of Nissan Canada Inc.

Canadian driving habits

From drivers who talk or text behind the wheel to road rage (New Brunswick, we're looking at you), Canadian drivers have a few pet peeves, a survey of 1,500 Canadians commissioned by autoTRADER.ca suggests. **Metro Canada**



ISTOCK

Canadians' top pet peeve while driving is other drivers who talk or text while behind the wheel, the survey revealed.

Fifteen per cent of survey respondents fessed up to texting while driving and 36 per cent said they at least sometimes talk on the phone while driving.

Just more than a quarter (27 per cent) of respondents who talk on the phone while driving use a handheld device.

For a quarter of Canadian drivers, speed is a pet peeve, with those who drive too slowly bothering 19 per cent of survey respondents. Drivers who drive too fast irritate seven per cent, but of those, 10 per cent admitted to being heavy on the gas pedal themselves.

A pet peeve with 20 per cent of Canadian drivers are drivers who tailgate, but only three per cent choose to tailgate another driver if he or she cuts in front of him or her.

When changing lanes or rounding a corner, drivers who fail to use their turn signals rile 18 per cent of Canadian drivers.

DISTRACTED DRIVING PENALTIES

Fines and demerit points across Canada
British Columbia: $167 fine, 3 points
Alberta: $172 fine, 0 points
Saskatchewan: $280 fine, 4 points
Manitoba: $200 fine, 2 points
Ontario: $300-$1,000 fine, 3 points
Quebec: $115-$145, 4 points
Newfoundland and Labrador: $100-$400, 4 points
Prince Edward Island.: $250-$400, 3 points
Nova Scotia: $233.95-$578.95, 4 points
New Brunswick: $172.50, 3 points
Yukon: $250, 3 points
N.W.T.: $322, 3 points
Nunavut: No present law

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metro SPORTS
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The Argos' Ricky Ray is on the six-game injured list as he recovers from shoulder surgery

Modern-day dynasty

NHL

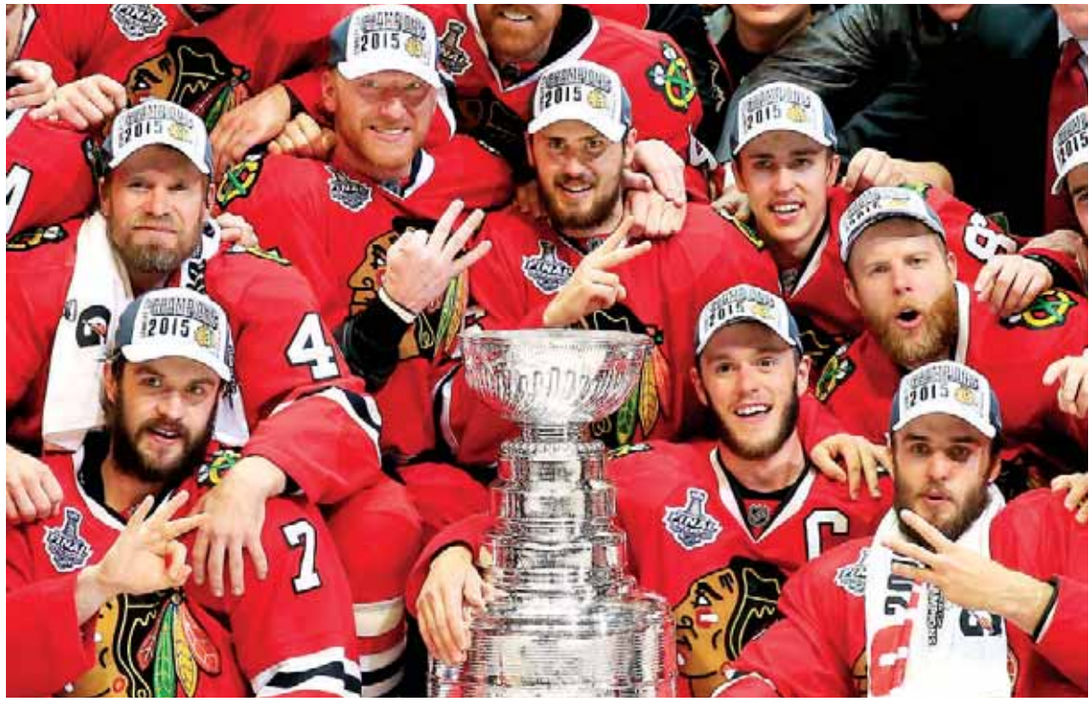
Blackhawks proving they are the model team in cap era

Embracing on the ice while celebrating their second Stanley Cup together, blossoming Chicago Blackhawks star Brandon Saad and general manager Stan Bowman already started looking forward to the next one.

"We gave a hug and I said, 'This is the first of many, we're going to win a lot together,'" Bowman said. "He gave me a big hug and said, 'Let's go.'"

The Blackhawks' core of Jonathan Toews, Patrick Kane, Patrick Sharp, Duncan Keith, Brent Seabrook and Marian Hossa is already up to three Cups in six years, an incredible feat in the NHL's salary-cap era. While the cap was designed to prevent this kind of domination, Chicago has thrived with stars who shine in the playoffs and an ever-changing mix of role players and young contributors.

"It certainly is a credit to our leadership group on the team and also my staff has done a fantastic job drafting and developing players," Bowman said Monday night on the ice at the United Center. "The only way you make it work in this system is if you can have young players that you not only draft but you develop, or you find them as free agents and you develop them."



The Blackhawks are a perennial contender to win the Cup. On Monday, they won their third championship in six years. TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGES

It has worked so well that the Blackhawks are starting to hear the word "dynasty" a lot. Commissioner Gary Bettman, a proponent and supporter of league-wide parity, told the crowd and team they had a dynasty when presenting Toews with the Cup.

> **Three in six years is amazing. What more can you really ask for, and we were so close last year, too.** Patrick Kane

They're not a dynasty by the traditional definition like the 1970s Montreal Canadiens or the 1980s New York Islanders or Edmonton Oilers, but like the Detroit Red Wings in the late 1990s and early 2000s, they've won multiple titles. In the cap-era they're the NHL's team of the decade.

Mark Messier, the captain of that Oilers dynasty, said during the final that a third Cup for the Blackhawks would be "an incredible feat."

"They're definitely a team on the cusp of being called a dynasty," Messier said last week. "There is no question about it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Midfielder Lawrence making her presence felt

Canadian midfielder Ashley Lawrence, right, celebrates her goal against the Netherlands with teammate Josee Belanger on Monday in Montreal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Midfielder Ashley Lawrence has never scored a more important goal in her young career.

On the biggest stage in women's soccer, the 20-year-old recorded Canada's only goal in a 1-1 draw with the Netherlands at the FIFA Women's World Cup on Monday night. The first-half strike was enough to give Canada top spot in Group A.

"She's been lighting it up in midfield," head coach John Herdman said of Lawrence. "A little bit of pace ... and just that composure to finish that goal. And she had a few chances tonight (Monday). She certainly had the bit between her teeth."

ON THE BOARD

With her goal on Monday, Lawrence became Canada's third youngest scorer in a World Cup.

Ten minutes into Monday's contest, Lawrence — a Toronto native — pounced on a loose ball for Canada's first goal from open play of the tournament.

Right back Josee Belanger got the play going from the sidelines. Her throw-in was deflected by captain Christine Sinclair to Sophie Schmidt, whose shot was blocked by Dutch defender Mandy van den Ber. The ball bounced right to Lawrence, who side-footed the ball home for her first international goal in her 21st appearance.

"John really stressed as a midfielder just getting forward and getting in those right positions," Lawrence said after Monday's draw. "It was a great cross and the deflection came out and I just finished." THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Assistant coaches follow Babcock to Maple Leafs

The Toronto Maple Leafs are filling out new head coach Mike Babcock's coaching staff.

Jim Hiller, D.J. Smith and Andrew Brewer were named assistant coaches Tuesday, the NHL team announced in a release. Hiller and Brewer worked as assistants under Babcock last season with the Detroit Red Wings.

The 46-year-old Hiller was in charge of Detroit's power-play unit last season while Brewer, 29, co-ordinated the Red Wings' coaching staff. Smith, 38, spent the last three seasons as head coach of the Oshawa Generals and recently guided the Ontario Hockey League club to a Memorial Cup title.

The Maple Leafs also announced that Matthew Herring has been named head strength and conditioning coach. Herring spent the last two seasons as an athletic performance associate with the NBA's San Antonio Spurs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Japan takes perfect record into knockout stage

Defending champion Japan became the first team to win all three of its group-stage matches at the Women's World Cup on Tuesday after defeating Ecuador 1-0 at Winnipeg Stadium.

Yuki Ogimi scored in the fifth minute for Japan, which secured first place in Group C and a spot in the knockout stage of the tournament.

Ecuador finished group play with three losses, being outscored 17-1 in the process.

Cameroon will also advance from Group C after defeating Switzerland 2-1 at Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA FINALS

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Game 6 of the Finals.

Mets' Tommy John tandem quiets Jays

MLB

Harvey, Parnell combine to shut down Toronto

Matt Harvey returned to form with seven shutout innings and an RBI double, leading the New York Mets to a 3-2 win over the Toronto Blue Jays Tuesday night.

Bobby Parnell earned a five-out save in his third outing since Tommy John surgery, and the NL East leaders held on without their top late relievers thanks in part to a major baserunning blunder by the Blue Jays.

A night after ending Toronto's 11-game winning streak, the Mets won for the fifth time in six games.

Harvey (7-4), who was 1-3 with a 7.20 ERA in his previous four starts, allowed four hits against the best offence in baseball. Harvey, also back from Tommy John surgery this season, struck out six and walked none.

TUESDAY In Queens, N.Y.

3	2
METS	BLUE JAYS

Minus closer Jeurys Familia and Hansel Robles due to heavy workloads, Mets manager Terry Collins had said Carlos Torres would be his closer if needed.

Torres, however, entered to start the eighth and quickly got in trouble. He issued a leadoff walk and gave up a single to Kevin Pillar before former Mets star Jose Reyes singled to right for his first hit in nine at-bats in his return to Citi Field this week.

Ryan Goins was held at third base — but Pillar didn't realize it. He went tearing around second and, with third already occupied, was a sitting duck to be tagged out by first baseman Lucas Duda after Curtis Granderson's throw from the outfield was cut off.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blue Jays outfielder Kevin Pillar gets tagged out by the Mets' Lucas Duda between second and third base on Tuesday night at Citi Field in New York. JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

IN BOSTON

Red Sox ride Holt's cycle to end skid

Boston Red Sox fans seemed too excited about the end of a long losing streak to notice the significance of Brock Holt hitting a triple in the eighth inning.

Holt was a little surprised himself after the three-base hit meant he had hit for the cycle as the Red Sox slugged their way out of a seven-game losing streak with a 9-4 victory over the Atlanta Braves on Tuesday.

Brock Holt GETTY IMAGES

"It's a pretty special day. It's something I'll remember for a while," said Holt, Boston's first player to hit for the cycle in 19 years.

Holt said he wasn't expecting to get another at-bat, let alone come through with a triple in the eighth inning.

His teammate Mookie Betts came a home run short of hitting for the cycle.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Akindele has immediate impact for Canada

Tesho Akindele scored his first international goal and set up one of two Tosaint Ricketts goals as Canada dispatched Dominica 4-0 Tuesday for a 6-0 aggregate win over the Caribbean minnow in Toronto in the first stop on the Canadian men's 2018 World Cup qualifying journey.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Argentina in lead as Aguero cracks Paraguay

Sergio Aguero scored early in the second half to give Argentina an important 1-0 win over defending champion Uruguay in the Copa America on Tuesday, moving into strong position to advance past the group stage of the South American tournament in La Serena, Chile.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Popp giving Sam space, time to return

CFL

Alouettes GM also slams 'trash' story connected to player's exit

Montreal Alouettes general manager Jim Popp is in touch daily with Michael Sam and his representatives, but he said he is not going to hound him into returning to the CFL team.

"We're a better football team with Michael Sam, our city is better and our league is better with Michael Sam," Popp told the Star. "We told him that when you're ready to come back you have a place here." Sam, the first openly gay player drafted in the NFL, left the team Friday before the first pre-season game for personal reasons, the team said.

No one is talking about what those personal reasons are, leading to much speculation.

Last month, the defensive end signed a two-year contract with the Alouettes after failed attempts to make the St. Louis Rams, who drafted him in 2014, and the Dallas Cowboys, who had him for a month on their practice roster.

Sam can't play pro football anywhere else because he is under contract with the Alouettes, who have suspended him. His rights remain with Montreal. Popp has suggested Sam's football career could be over if he doesn't return.

Sam was the first openly gay player drafted in the NFL GETTY IMAGES

The Montreal GM said there was a wrong perception that Sam was struggling on the field, and he believes Sam was showing steady improvement every day.

"Do I think he could make our team better? Absolutely," Popp said. "He's going to be a force to be reckoned with. He's at home right now, so we may never know the answer to that."

Popp said the six-foot-two, 260-pound defender out of the University of Missouri faced challenges adjusting to the CFL system. He was used to a three-point stance on pass-rush plays, but the defensive co-ordinator insisted on a two-point stance. "He worked at things he was asked to do that he doesn't naturally do," Popp said. Popp lashed out at a media report suggesting that Sam may have overreacted to a teammate's critical comment.

The Montreal Gazette quoted an unnamed source saying that someone made a comment about Sam not having a very good camp and that he took it personally.

Popp suspects the rumour started inside the team, perhaps with a player competing with Sam for a job because "guys are paranoid about their jobs."

"I'll put money on it. It came from somebody like that. The bottom line is I don't like those type of people in our locker room," Popp said.

Popp called the report quoting an unnamed source "trash."

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Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 1/2 lb flank steak
- Salt and pepper
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 1/2 cup sliced cherry or grape tomatoes (yellow and red), sliced in half
- 3 Tbsp toasted pine nuts
- 1 1/2 oz crumbled feta cheese
- 3 Tbsp chopped basil

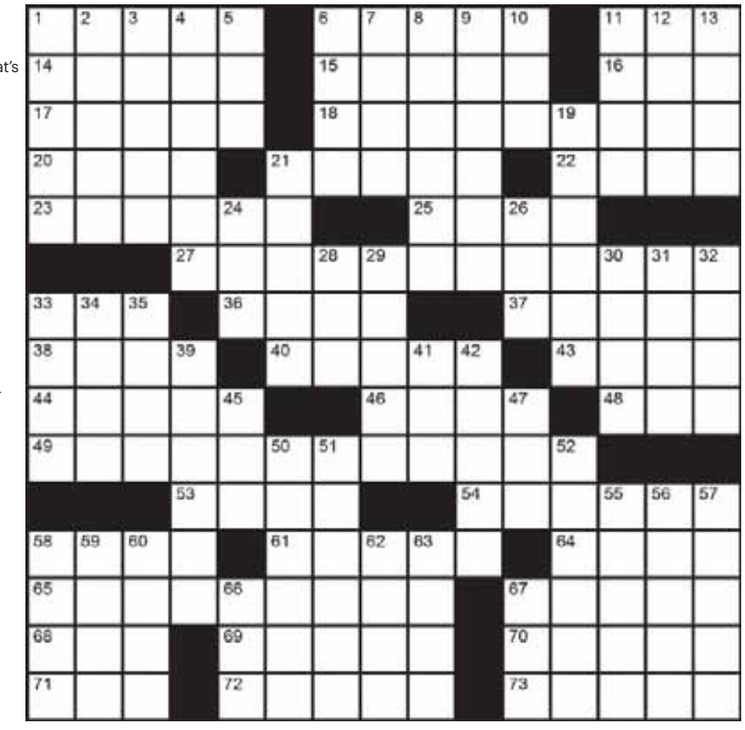
Directions
1. Season steak with salt and pepper. Grill for about five minutes per side, depending upon thickness, until cooked to your preference. For medium rare, let temperature reach 130 F. Let sit for 10 minutes. Alternatively, bake at 425F for the same amount of time.
2. Meanwhile, in large skillet, add olive oil and sauté tomatoes for two minutes.
3. Slice steak thinly across the grain and spread tomatoes, nuts, feta and basil over top.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 280
- Carbohydrates 1 g
- Fibre 1 g
- Protein 34 g
- Fat 15 g
- Saturated fat 6 g
- Cholesterol 55 mg
- Sodium 150 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Old __ (Men's grooming brand)
6. "I'm not sure if that's good __ __ news?"
11. Premium auto
14. Nutty pie
15. Ms. Witherspoon
16. "Well, __-di-dah!"
17. Scottish landowner
18. Bryan Adams' 'I know not what I do' song, with Please: 2 wds.
20. Banda __ (City in Sumatra in Indonesia)
21. 'Mechanical Resonance' band
22. Off
23. Queen's chair
25. Tehran's locale
27. Corner Brook __ __ __ Limited (Company in Newfoundland that manages about 3.6 'mill'ion acres of forest)
33. __ Na Na
36. Change direction
37. Fearless
38. School year division
40. Paving stones
43. Mr. Kristofferson
44. Yukon-Alaska peak, Mount Saint __
46. 'Special' suffixes
48. Model Carol
49. McCain crust-and-filling snacks: 2 wds.
53. Aahs cohorts
54. Heaps
58. Dirt
61. Signs
64. Warmth
65. Fundy __ __ Adventures (Shubenacadie River tour provider in Nova Scotia)
67. Rigatoni
68. __-encompassing
69. Brings to life a ballad
70. Record
71. "See ya."
72. Carpentry grooves
73. Cup, in Montreal

DOWN
1. Fallen tomato's sound
2. Summery fruit
3. More frigid
4. Arnold's server on "Happy Days"
5. Conclusion
6. Ornamental pond fish, Golden __
7. Vintage autos
8. City in Leonard Cohen's "First We Take Manhattan"
9. Mount in Nunavut sharing the name of The Aesir's home in Norse mythology
10. Agnus __ (Mass prayer)
11. Bungled
12. Family member
13. __ protein powder
19. Joan of "Knots Landing": 2 wds.
21. Vancouver-headquartered communications company
24. Cashew
26. Police alert, commonly
28. Before
29. Caper
30. Prefix to 'normal'
31. Super nasty
32. Break
33. Footprint
34. Prefix to 'copter'
35. Tucson's li'l state
39. Corn oil brand
41. "Tut-tut!"
42. Thorny rose parts
45. Brazil: __ Louis
47. Pou __ (Vantage point)
50. Fear of something
51. Donny or Marie
52. "CBC News Now" host Ms. Meharchand
55. Tree abodes
56. Fig's friends
57. Gawk
58. Wild guess
59. Slick
60. Laze
62. Thus
63. Loch __ Monster
66. John Lennon's unintended acronym
67. Arfer, for one

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
No matter how far out your ideas you can find ways to make them work. It is sometimes said that everyone with a new idea is considered a crank, until the idea works. Your critics will soon be calling you a genius!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
If you take a chance today you could hit the jackpot. There are no guarantees but the planets promise if you have done your homework and planned things carefully you could easily be a winner.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
If you did not do something remarkable yesterday you will certainly do something remarkable today. Even if you are one of life's rare shy and retiring Geminis you will find ways to show the world what you can do.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If you are the kind of Cancer who hates to see injustice then now is the time to do something about it. There are so many good causes out there and all of them crying out for people with your brand of compassion.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
The speed of your actions will take everyone by surprise. If a friend is in some kind of trouble you will go out of your way to help them, then a little bit further to take care of the source of the problem too.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Many things are changing and you will have to adapt quickly if you want to stay one step ahead of your rivals. One day you will look back and give thanks that you were forced to move in a new direction.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may have good reasons for wanting to keep information from certain individuals but it's unlikely the planets will let you. Once they know what you do, your the advantage will be gone but you're still better than they are.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may find it very difficult to stay in control of your emotions today, but why would you want to? Sometimes it's good to let everything out, especially if you have been storing up negative feelings.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Something rather shocking is likely to happen today. In a few days time you will realize you should have seen it coming. Be that as it may you are flexible enough to adapt and survive. You may even thrive.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Decide what needs to be done, then get on and do it. While your rivals are wasting time arguing about this and that you will be out there in the real world making things happen.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Following on from yesterday's new moon you will be in a highly creative mood and whatever you work on over the next 24 hours will bring you a great deal of joy and success. Follow your dream wherever it takes you.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
A friend or relative will surprise everyone by what they do today and emotions are likely to be running high as a result. You though must remain calm and not let your own biases affect your judgment. It's not a matter of life or death.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	6	4	9					
			7	8	4	9	1	
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		6					9	
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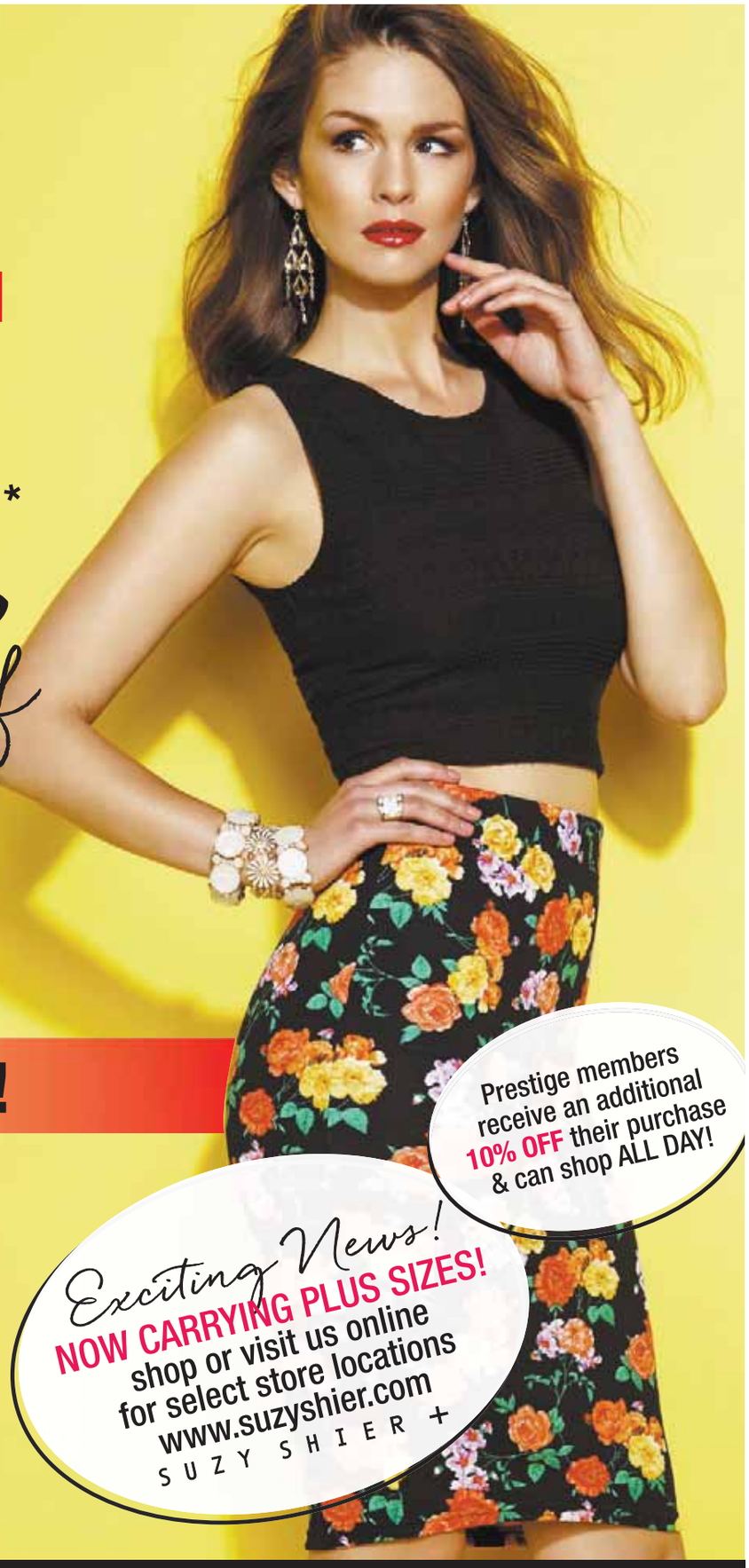

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HWY / CITY 100KM[▲]: 8.3L/11.4L

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Soul SX Luxury shown[‡]
Cash purchase price $29,144

HWY / CITY 100KM[▲]: 7.8L/9.9L

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Rio4 SX with Navigation shown[‡] Cash purchase price $24,064
HWY / CITY 100KM[▲]: 6.3L/8.8L

$3,000 IN CASH SAVINGS[**]

Offer based on new 2015 Rio LX+ AT (R0743F) with a selling price of $18,664.[**] Excludes HST.

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5 Year Warranty — WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED *5-year/100,000 km worry-free comprehensive warranty.

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Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees and all mandatory government levies. Prices do not include fuel-fill charges up to $100, dealer administration fees up to $399, licensing or applicable taxes.

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Offer(s) available on select new 2015 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery from June 2 to 30, 2015. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, environmental fee, and $100 A/C charge (where applicable). Excludes other taxes, licensing, registration, insurance, variable dealer administration fee, fuel-fill charges up to $100, and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. [◊]Bonus Cash amounts are offered on select 2015 models and are deducted from the negotiated purchase/lease price before taxes. Certain conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. [§§]"Don't Pay for 90 days" on select models (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on all new 2015 Forte and Sportage models on approved credit (OAC). No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal interest monthly over the term of the contract. Offer ends June 30, 2015. [¤]**Representative Financing Example**: Financing offer available on approved credit (OAC), on new 2015 Forte LX+ AT (F0743F)/2015 Sportage LX MT FWD (SP551F) with a selling price of $21,764/$24,844 is based on monthly payments of $296/$272, and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,535/$1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax and A/C charge ($100, where applicable) for 60/84 months at 0% with a $0 down payment/equivalent trade, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Offer also includes $4,000/$2,000 Bonus Cash.[◊] Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends June 30, 2015. [Ω]**Representative Leasing Example**: Lease offer available on approved credit (OAC), on new 2015 Soul 1.6L LX MT (S0551F) with a selling price of $18,744 is based on monthly payments of $171, and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax and A/C charge ($100, where applicable) for 60 months at 0.9% with a $475 down payment/equivalent trade, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $10,249 with the option to purchase at the end of the term for $8,607. Lease has 16,000 km/yr allowance (other packages available and $0.12/km for excess kilometres). Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends June 30, 2015. [Δ]Cash bonus amounts are offered on select 2015 models and are deducted from the negotiated purchase/lease price before taxes. Certain conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. [≠]Lease payments must be made on a monthly or bi-weekly basis but cannot be made on a weekly basis. Weekly lease payments are for advertising purposes only. ~Cash savings (cash credit) for 2015 Rio LX+ AT (R0743F) are $3,000 and available on cash purchase offers only. Cash savings vary by model/trim and are deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Cash purchase price is $15,644 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,535, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, A/C charge ($100, where applicable) and a cash credit of $3,000. Dealer may sell for less. Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends June 30, 2015. [‡]Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2015 Forte SX (F0748F)/2015 Rio4 SX with Navigation (R0749F)/2015 Soul SX Luxury (S0758F)/2015 Sportage SX Luxury (SP759F) is $26,695/$22,395/$27,295/$38,495. [▲] Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2015 Rio LX+ ECO AT/2015 Forte 1.8L MPI 4-cyl AT/2015 Sportage 2.4L 4-cyl AT/2015 Soul 2.0L GDI 4-cyl MT. These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. 2015 Kia Soul awarded ALG Residual Value Award for highest resale value in its class. Based on ALG's residual value forecast for the 2015 model year. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.